

The Annual Health Fair is October 5

Everyone is invited to the 18th annual FUMCO Health Fair, on October 5 from 9:30 am to 1 pm, in the Great Hall. Come for worship and plan to spend some time downstairs either before or after the services.

Coffee will be served at the Health Fair along with yummy healthy snacks. **Dr. Brad Waite** will answer your health questions and he will also have information about medical marijuana.

Martin's Southgate Pharmacy will provide influenza vaccine. Pick up and sign an "Influenza Vaccine Administration Request" form, available in the Narthex between services and in the office. Please return to the office before the Health Fair.

Ask the Doctor
Flu Shots
Blood Pressure
Glucose Tests
Diabetes Education
Osteoporosis Screening
Posture check
Toenail Care
Fit Body Boot Camp
Decades Younger
Massage Therapy
Healing touch
Green Team
FUMCO Library
Healthy Snacks

Advance Directives
Bonaventure
Assured Home Health & Hospice
Senior Services for South Sound
Long Term Care
Pacific Pastoral Counseling
Calcara Chiropractic
Depression Support Group
Stephen Ministry
Call 211
Response Task Force
Funeral Alternatives
National Alliance on Mental Illness
Pierce County AIDS Foundation
Medical Reserve Corps

What a great list of ways to learn about health!

Live Healthy, Laugh Often, Love Much

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Getting to Know FUMCO Oct 12, 12:30 p.m.

The fall class to learn about this 160-year old faith community will be held on Sunday afternoon. We begin with a light lunch and then hear the amazing stories of the past of First Church, Olympia. We'll learn a bit about the UMChurch, as well as take a short tour of this facility. This class is open to anyone who would like more information about the church. It helps our preparation to know who is coming, so please sign up in the church office to let us know you will be there.

2 Current Happenings

October is a season of harvesting ... and giving...

Over the next few weeks, members and friends of First United Methodist Church of Olympia are being asked to consider their support of the church for the coming year. Two congregation-wide mailings will deliver information to you via your mailing address. One will be a "nuts and bolts" newsletter about the church's ministry dreams and our tradition of supporting the church with regular financial giving.

The second mailing will be a more philosophical newsletter containing devotional materials that your Stewardship Team hopes you will spend some time reading through and praying over before making a decision about how you will support the church's work in 2015 and how you will communicate your decision to the church.

We ask all members and friends to carefully and prayerfully read both mailings, as well as attend worship on October 19, when Pastor Peter will be preaching a message on stewardship entitled "Naming the Idols," and especially on October 26 which is Pledge Sunday. On Pledge Sunday, estimate of giving cards will be brought to the altar in a great sign of discipleship as God's people embrace the call and challenge to make ministry happen in special ways in this place.

Read any good books lately?

Join the FUMCO Book Club in the Gathering Place on the 2nd Friday of each month at 10 am. In September we shared and discussed our summer reading. Books chosen for the new season could be of great interest for you:

"Girls Like Us" by Rachel Lloyd is the selection for October 10th.

Coming up we will be reading "Light between Oceans", "Boys In the Boat", "The Zealot", "Invention of Wings", "Moving the Mountain", "One Thousand White Women", and "King Peggy."

From time to time, other books are recommended throughout the year. The Book Club is a time for fellowship, sharing and an opportunity to expand your learning horizons. Contact either Barbara Breslin at 943-1988 or Jody Mesojednik at 459-1990 for additional information.

First UMC, Olympia

Office Hours:

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday—Friday

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday

Phone: 360-943-2661; Fax: 360-943-2668

E-mail: fumco@fumcoly.org

Web: www.fumcoly.org

News: fumconews@fumcoly.org

Lead Pastor: Rev. Peter Perry

Associate Pastor: Rev. Ruth Marston

Discipleship Pastor: Rev. Carolyn Peterson

Minister of Music: Angi Swan

Music Ministries: Cathy Bennett, Mark Bunda,

Lisa Robischon, Leah Wilson

Church Administrator: Davis Hylkema

Administrative Assistant: Dolores Prouty

Treasurer: Denise Alborn

Building Facilitator/Custodian: Tim Monahan

Weekend Custodian: Dave Hoge

PLEASE NOTE:

Articles for the *next* Courier must be delivered to the office or preferably e-mailed to fumconews@fumcoly.org by the 20th of the month.

Missionaries to Visit First Church!

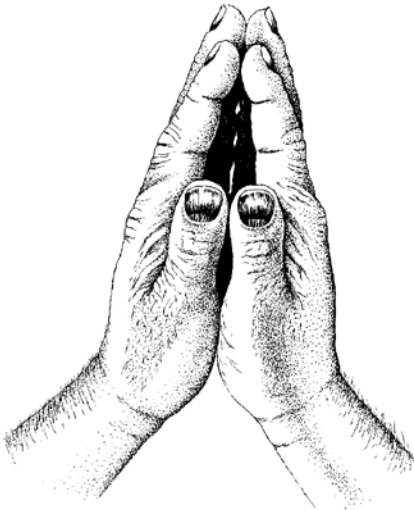
Fall Mission Dinner

October 8, 6 pm

The UMW Fall Mission Dinner will be held on Wednesday, October 8th at 6:00 p.m. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. Our guest speakers are Missionaries Fresie and Rukang Chikomb from the Southern Congo Wings of the Morning, an aviation medical mission that brings basic medical care into inaccessible regions of the Congo and provides air ambulance services for the region. The Chikombs are a missionary family sponsored by the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. Dinner reservations must be in by Monday, October 7th. Tickets are available in the church office. Cost is \$6 per person.



Come, Let Us Pray



Experience Prayer in a Small Group Setting

Saturday, October 18
10:00am – Noon

In our homes, our community, and throughout the world, the need for God's works of grace, healing and wonders is everywhere. Join members of the Prayer Ministries Team on Saturday morning to lift prayers of gratitude and compassion, petition and intercession for global concerns, for the church, and for whatever personal needs you may bring. Meet in the new Prayer Room (207), immediately to the left as you come in the main entrance.

Trunk-n-Treat, Sunday, Oct 26

Families of all shapes and sizes are invited to come Sunday afternoon at 4:00 for the all new Veggie Tale: *Beauty and the Beet*. Right after the movie, it will be Trunk-n-Treat time in the back parking lot.

This is a time to wear your Halloween Costume, getting ready before the Halloween rush. All children of the church and community are invited.

Families, small groups and friends are invited to sign up their trunk; decorate it as you wish, park it in the lower parking lot, and wait for the kiddies to come! (Those needing decor may check with Pastor Carolyn, to borrow from the church's collection!) Sign up in the church office.

A History of Ministry

We received a delightful recollection from Larry SA. Baker, a minister in the United Church of Christ, who grew up here at First Church Olympia and experienced a call to ministry under the ministry of the Rev. William Callahan who was the senior pastor here from 1947-1956. Rev. Baker is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination. He credits the early experience of faithful ministry he saw here at our church for launching him into a life of Christian service, saying, "I will always be grateful to the Olympia church for what it did to nurture my faith and provide so many models of commitment and leadership." Rev. Baker's letter will be posted on the church bulletin board for all of us to enjoy.

"I will always be grateful..."

Women & Finance in October

The \$70 billion U.S. Cosmetic industry is largely self-regulated. Under the food drug and cosmetics act of 1938, cosmetics do not have to be cleared by the Food and Drug Administration before they're sold.

This month's speaker will be Eliza Kaufmann, Environmental Health Educator from the Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department. The program is on "Chemicals of Concern in Personal Care."

When: Monday, October 6

Where: River's Edge Restaurant located at the Tumwater Golf Course.

Time: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

All are welcome.

Questions? Call Bobbie Hunbbard at 943-3876

4 Mission (outside our walls)

We get Fan Mail!

Our church is making a noticeable impact on the community around us. We support the Food Bank, Camp Quixote, the Soup Kitchen, Madison School, area shelters and several social service agencies. We keep people in their homes or help them get into one; we do many other small and large things that touch lives, and our efforts have not gone unnoticed by those working alongside us to make Olympia a better place. The following "fan mail" came to the treasurer's office (accompanied by a donation):

Dear People of the United Methodist Church,

...As long-time residents of Olympia, we are so grateful for the humanitarian and community-enhancing programs your church offers. We appreciate your focus on service, and we celebrate the "kind hearts and gentle people" among you who work hard and selflessly to help folks in need, without judgment, whether they are members of your congregation or not.

May each of you thrive in love, hope, joy, forgiveness, compassion, awe and gratitude, with faith in universal loving kindness for its own sake. And may you continue to share so graciously with everyone within your reach...Thank you so much!

That's our church these neighbors are talking about! The world is watching what the church does!

God who is honored when we care for "the least of these among us." Our work of mission is done because God calls us to love our neighbors. Sometimes that work grows the church, which is great, but it is not the reason we do the things we do. Sometimes the results of our labors to make the world a better place seem small, but when we make a difference, even a little one, the world, and God, smiles.

Gleaning At Helsing Junction

A big thank you goes to the following volunteers who traveled to Helsing Junction on September 11th: Carol and Wayne Gruen, Violet Crase, John Crawford, Margaret Allen, Diane Hanson, Gary Proctor, Joan Reitzwood, and Elizabeth Raybould. The harvesting of green beans and cabbage will help provide for the 200+ families who visit the Food Bank on a daily basis.

Our next time to glean at Helsing Junction will be Thursday, October 9th. We gather at the church by 8:15 a.m. to carpool to the Food Bank or if you prefer to drive directly to the Food Bank, you need to be there by 8:30 a.m. If you are available on that date, please sign up at the gleaning table in the Narthex between services on October 5th, or call Marilyn Dawson, FUMCO Coordinator, at 456-0376, by Wednesday evening, October 8th.

Volunteers Needed to Prepare Overnight Homeless Shelter

In just a few weeks, on November 1, an Overnight Homeless Shelter for single men and women, managed by Interfaith Works, will open at the First Christian Church. We will occupy the space vacated by the Family Shelter that has moved to Pear Blossom Place. The good news is that we have funds to renovate the space (new flooring, paint, and real beds). The bad news is that there is so little time to do it. Just as when FUMCO responded to help move Camp Quixote, we need you to volunteer for a work party to get the Shelter space ready. If you think you might be able to help, call Terry Kirkpatrick @ 943-3293 and we will try to match you up with a project.

Help Us Move In Reaches New Milestone

If you've been in church this summer, then you know that Pastor Peter often greets us by saying, "Good morning, CHURCH!" Well, CHURCH, you have reached a milestone! On September 3, 2014, the Help Us Move In Fund provided funds for a family of three to become homeless no more. This raised us to the milestone of 700 children helped.

Since October 2000, the Help Us Move In Fund has assisted 284 families obtain homes. You donated over \$116,000. The fund has a balance of approximately \$23,000. Last year, we helped 38 children. So far in 2014, we have helped 41. Sarah Greenwell, Homeless Coordinator at Madison School, said that "this fall there are going to be a lot of needy families seeking our help." The Fund is well prepared to meet this need due to your generosity.

Congratulations, CHURCH! Now on to a new milestone of 750 children homeless no more.

Christmas Families 2014: New and Improved

The Christmas Families program kicks off Nov. 23, and gifts are due back by Dec. 14. There will be a tree in the Narthex and volunteers available to help you navigate our new procedures.

Gift tags for toys and clothes: This year's gift tags on the tree will be a 2-part form. The top half will be information about the child and requested gift; behind it there will be a form for the shopper to fill out with contact information so that we know who will be purchasing the gift. There will be a slotted box next to the tree to collect the contact information.

Why? In the past, when gifts were not returned by the deadline we had no way of giving a reminder call or checking in with the shopper. Sometimes we replaced the late gift out of the Christmas family's fund, and then received it from a shopper the following day. Christmas is a busy, hectic time of year and things (understandably) slip through the cracks; please take a moment to fill out the contact forms so that we can track the gifts, and check yours off the list when you bring it back.

Deliver all gifts unwrapped and in a box! We will be providing the parents with wrapping paper and ribbon, but will leave the gift unwrapped for them to see first. **Why?** This is in response to feedback from our families. They prefer to see what their children are getting ahead of time.

Gift Cards: This year, the Christmas Families committee will purchase all gift cards and grocery cards, not the congregation. We will accept monetary donations (of any amount) towards the purchase of \$30 gift cards for families that would rather shop for their own gifts, as well as \$50 grocery gift cards for each family.

Why? Two reasons. First, gift cards are like cash. By purchasing the gift cards all at once, we can immediately store them securely in the church safe instead of trying to keep track of them as they come in one at a time; last year's theft of some of the gift cards was a powerful wake-up call. Secondly, we will be able to equalize the value of the gift cards. We would like to avoid hurt feelings when one child gets a larger gift card than his or her sibling.

No Grocery Boxes this year. Again, this is in response to feedback from the families. People have dietary restrictions and various preferences, so we will be giving them \$50 for a turkey and other groceries instead of just the \$25 for a turkey, as in the past. You may donate any dollar amount towards the grocery cards, and we will purchase them.

Thank you for understanding our new changes, and for your continued support of this ministry. Help us make a special Christmas for the kids!

Questions? Please contact: Jeanne Kirkpatrick (360) 359-0031 or jeannek2@comcast.net

First Sundays at First Church are Food Bank Sundays!



Did you know that the first Sunday of every month is Food Bank Sunday? We encourage you to bring needed supplies for our food banks, especially the following items;

Canned proteins like tuna, chicken, SPAM, beef stew, salmon,
peanut/nut/sunbutter

Canned fruits in natural juices and canned vegetables

Canned soup, Boxed cereals, Mac & Cheese

6 Ministry (inside our walls)

Dollars and Sense

There is an old story about how God's reality is different from our reality. One man had an interview with God and he asked the divine creator of all that is, if it was true that a human lifetime is but the blink of an eye for God.

"Yes," God said, "that is true. A second in my time is equal to a million years in human time." The man followed up with another question. "And is it true that all of our wealth is but a crumb of your heavenly wealth?" And God said, "Yes, that is true, too. A million dollars to you is but a penny to me." Thinking about this the man asked God, "Lord, can I borrow a quarter?" And God said, "Sure, I will give it to you in a second."

God's church exists in our reality and it takes money to keep the ministries of the church moving forward. We are happy to report that during August we received a generous contribution of stocks from an anonymous donor which has helped cover the cost of our water pipe repairs and has erased our chronic budget shortfall. We are in the black! We are only able to say this because we have carefully held the line on many budgeted expenses, spending below our projected levels. Here are the numbers...

As of August 31:

Income to date: \$469,412

Expenses to date: \$462,810

Our bottom line: \$6,602 more income than expenses. Our apportionments are paid in full and all bills are current. Please help us maintain this pleasant situation with your continued support of the overhead, discipleship programs, and important ministries of this wonderful church family. Thank you.

Worship Attendance

Have you been to church this summer? God's Spirit has been moving among us in our worship experiences and attendance is growing. If you haven't been here, you really should come and see what's happening.

Here are the monthly averages for our combined worship services:

July	287
August	310
September	333 (first 2 weeks)

Of course, there is still plenty of room in the sanctuary for you to invite friends, neighbors, and family members to worship with you. As Pastor Peter likes to remind us, your financial gifts are appreciated, but the best gift you can give to your church is to bring another person into our community of faith. Bring a guest and be sure to introduce them to a pastor!

All Church Conference, October 20

All members and friends of First Church are invited to share in an hour of ministry reflection at our annual Church Conference with our new District Superintendent, the Rev. Cara Scriven, on Monday evening, October 20, at 6:30 pm. The annual meeting is when we establish pastoral salaries for the coming year, update our membership roster, and review the mission and vision of the church. Late last year, we renewed our commitment to our vision statement as we worked through the 360 Plan. We will be looking at how we are living into that vision statement with our pastoral leadership team.

New Members

First Church friends, we have been blessed to have new members join our congregation.

They are:

- Sue and Larry Sugarbaker
- Linda Scott
- Christian Slinkard
- Kim Weber
- Susan Freese
- John, Lisa, and Jessica Gancel
- Dorothy Wolpert
- Karen Perry

We are excited about their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness that they have promised to bring to our congregation. Their commitment is our blessing.

If you see them, congratulate them and welcome them in to our community!



The Gift of Prayer

A Testimony From Davis Hylkema

One morning, while in the shower, out of nowhere, this question popped into my head: "What has been the most life changing event I've experienced?" And before I could hardly consider the question, the answer followed. "When I began to learn to pray."

Some years before I had picked up a paperback book from the modest library of the church we were attending titled, "How to Talk to God." I read one chapter and then for the following week would put into practice the model of prayer presented; and do the same each following week. That simple exercise expanded not only my understanding of prayer, but also my experience of life in God's constant presence, works, teaching and guidance, by which God opened me to see the world, people, circumstances and reality differently. I knew and had received Jesus as my Savior and Lord years earlier, and that set a course in my life journey.

Learning to pray brought more bearing to the journey as it opened the door to life in the Holy Spirit. From there the Spirit led me to discover God's word, the Bible, as more than text, history and stories, but to become a place of encounter. Like prayer, the scriptures too were a place to be with and learn from the Lord. Through scripture and prayer we learn to know His voice.

Perhaps the greatest discovery may be that all of this is a gift from God; a gift to be shared. Learning to pray with and for others, and watching God work upon and within other people is a true joy and wonder, and part of the journey God invites us all to be on. Knock and the door shall be opened. Seek and you shall find. Pray and the world will never be the same.

- Davis Hylkema

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)

From the Librarian...

Please look around for either of these children's DVDs, The Prince of Egypt and Dave and the Giant Pickle. The disc jackets have been confused and we'd like to get them back in circulation!

Pastor Peter leads a study of Mark on Fridays at noon. The library has some great supplementary materials for the study. "The Lost Gospel of Q" is a work that describes one of the hidden sources about the life of Jesus used by the Gospel writers. In the Library Office there are three non-Biblical books – The Didache (The Teaching of the Twelve), The Gospel of Thomas and First Clement. These early Christian writers, once contenders for inclusion in the New Testament, help us understand the world of the early church.

Another great resource for Bible study is a book titled Gospel Parallels, which prints all of the Gospels in parallel columns. We now have a complete set of The Interpreter's Bible and two sets of The New Interpreter's Bible. These are heavy books, so you get an upper body workout when reading from them!

Other commentary series are Interpretation, Interpreter's and the Daily Study Bible. There is a difference between the first two just mentioned, even though the names are nearly identical. The latter was published by William Barclay, a British scholar. The Women's Bible Commentary has a feminist approach to the scriptures. The editors and all contributors are women. My advisor from seminary is one of the contributors.

We have a variety of one volume Bible dictionaries and commentaries ranging in size from a dictionary to a small paperback. There is also a collection of atlases. Some of the books relating to Mark are on a shelf near the youth books. Others are scattered through the Reference and general collection, especially the 220's. Please browse,. Check out anything that's not Reference.

As always, if you can't find something, your library volunteers are happy to help. See us on Thursdays or Sunday mornings... Violet Crase and Barbara Lindblad or myself, Jim Lawson.



8 Church Calendar

Wednesday, October 1

9:30 UMW Executive
6:30 Youth Council

Thursday, October 2

6:30 Men's Breakfast IHOP
10:00 Library staffed
1:00 Depression Support Group
5:15 Bell Choir Practice
6:30 Prayer Ministries
6:45 Chancel Choir

Friday, October 3

Noon Brown Bag Bible

Saturday, October 4

2:00 Julie Curtiss Memorial

Sunday, October 5

8:45 Worship
9:30 Health Fair Great Hall
10:00 Christian Education
11:15 Worship
12:30 Children's Choir
4:00 Youth Group

Monday, October 6

9:00 Women & Finance off-site
1:00 Cobb Small Group
6:30 Follow Series

Tuesday, October 7

10:00 Quilting
1:30 Staff Meeting
6:30 Staff Parish

Wednesday, October 8

6:00 UMW Mission Dinner
6:30 Stephen Ministry

Thursday, October 9

10:00 Library staffed
1:00 Depressions Support Group
2:00 UMW Bible
5:15 Bell Choir Practice
6:45 Chancel Choir

Friday, October 10

10:00 Book Club
Noon Brown Bag Bible

Sunday, October 12

8:45 Worship
10:00 Christian Education Classes
11:15 Worship
12:30 Children's Choir
12:30 Children's Council
12:30 Getting to Know FUMCO
4:00 Youth Group

Monday, October 13

5:30 Celebration Singers Practice
6:30 Follow Series

Tuesday, October 14

9:30 Staff Meeting
10:00 Quilting Group
5:30 Trustees
6:00 Abigail Circle
6:30 Interfaith Works
6:30 Finance

Wednesday, October 15

10:30 New Hope

Thursday, October 16

6:30 Men's Breakfast @ Denny's
10:00 Library staffed
1:00 Depressions Support Group
5:15 Bell Choir Practice
6:45 Chancel Choir

Friday, October 17

Noon Brown Bag Bible

Saturday, October 18

10:00 Prayer Gathering

Sunday, October 19

8:45 Worship
10:00 Christian Education Classes
11:15 Worship
12:30 Children's Choir
4:00 Youth Group

Monday, October 20

1:00 Cobb Small group
5:30 Staff Parish
5:30 Celebration Singers Practice
6:30 Church Conference

Tuesday, October 21

9:30 Staff Meeting
10:00 Clergy Cluster
10:00 Quilting
1:00 Ruth Circle
3:00 Prayer Shawl
5:30 Caregivers Support Group
6:30 Executive Committee

Wednesday, October 22

6:30 Stephen Ministry

Thursday, October 23

10:00 Library staffed
1:00 Depressions Support Group
2:00 UMW Bible
5:15 Bell Choir Practice
6:45 Chancel Choir

Friday, October 24

Noon Brown Bag Bible

Sunday, October 26

8:45 Worship
10:00 Christian Education Classes
10:00 Recycle Rangers
11:15 Worship
12:30 Children's Choir
4:00 Youth Group
4:00 Family Movie Night
4:30 Trunk-n-Treat outside

Monday, October 27

5:30 Celebration Singers Practice
6:30 Follow Series

Tuesday, October 28

9:30 Staff Meeting
10:00 Quilting
6:30 Missions
6:30 Outreach

Thursday, October 30

10:00 Library Staffed
1:00 Depression Support
5:15 Bell Choir Practice
6:45 Chancel Choir

Friday, October 31

Noon Brown Bag Bible

And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them."

All Saints Day

On November 2, we will be celebrating All Saints Day at the church. It is a day of reflection that we share with millions of Christians around the world. In accordance to our own traditions at First Olympia, we will be lighting candles and reading off the names of those who have died in the past year as a way to remember and celebrate their ministries and lives.



United Methodist Women's Plans

The purpose of the United Methodist Women is to 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. Here at First Church Olympia, our fellowship is alive and well and busy planning some fundraising activities to help us successfully live up to our purpose!

Nuts!

Time once again to get your nut orders in for this year. All our nuts are in one pound packages and are this year's crop. Packages in the stores are frequently only 12 ozs. and are frequently last year's crops when their prices are low. We expect to have the nuts by the end of October ready for pick-up. If you would like to help sack nuts please let us know. You can pick up an order form in the office, order on-line or contact Carol Gruen 352-9703 or Inger Beckwith at 438-5664.

HELP NEEDED: we need one or two people who can help take orders. We would love to have more help. We need someone to take orders at Panorama, and the Firs. If you would be willing to take orders please let us know.

Bazaar!

United Methodist Women's bazaar is coming. We need help with set-up on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 13th (1 p.m.), volunteers to work in the booths and cashier on Saturday, Nov. 15th, and then on Saturday at 4 p.m. to help us get ready for Sunday morning sales. We will be hosting the coffee hours on Sunday and the silent auction which ends at 1:00 p.m. when we will then box everything up. If you would like to help out in any capacity please contact Carol Gruen 352-9703 or email at gruenw@comcast.net.

October Meeting!

Our October meeting is the UMW Fall Mission Dinner on Wednesday, October 8th at 6:00 p.m. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. See page 2 of this newsletter for more information.

UMW!

2014		
Name	Phone#	
# LB.	NUT LIST	PRICE-LB.
___	Walnut	8.50
___	Pecans	9.50
___	Whole Almonds	7.25
___	Almonds-blanch/sliced.....	7.25
___	Almonds-natural/sliced	7.25
___	Almond Slivered	7.25
___	Almonds-roasted/salted	7.25
___	Almonds-smokehouse	7.25
___	Cashews	7.50
___	Mixed Nuts	8.50
___	Pistachios	8.50
___	Macadamia.....	11.00
___	Half pound Macadamia.....	6.00
___	Jumbo Roasted Peanuts	4.00
___	Filberts-Raw	6.75
___	Filberts-Roasted	8.50
___	Brazil Nuts	7.50

To Order call: Carol Gruen 352-9703 or
Inger Beckwith 438-5664
Make checks payable to United Methodist Women

Friendship Group: Genealogy 101

For those who would like to begin discovering their family history, this weekly gathering over the first four weeks of November can get you started on a lifetime of fascinating discovery! Join Pastor Carolyn Peterson on Sunday afternoons, 4:00-5:30, November 2 - 23. Learn the basics of starting a family tree, what to look for, and where to find answers. Sign up in the church office!

Youth Calendar:

October's Theme: My Father's House

October 5: Movie Night: "Heaven is for Real"

We're gathering together to watch one of the most popular Christian movies of the year. There will be pizza rolls and cookies baked by Pastor Ruth.

October 12: Updating a Bible Verse

The Bible is our scripture. Through the Holy Spirit's guidance it is made relevant to all times and places. Yet how are to we understand it? How do we share it? We'll be updating the verse in a few different ways, through music, rewriting, acting, or artwork.

This is also a big help for Pastor Ruth who is using this Bible Study for her ordination process. She thanks all of you in advance for all of your help.

October 18: BIG SATURDAY: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Rutledge Corn Maze in Tumwater

Beware of zombies! We voted at youth group on September 21, to go to the Rutledge Maze. Wear warm clothes and prepare your best screams as we go bravely together through the haunted corn maze. Bring a friend, because we could use the strength in numbers.

Meet at the church at 6:00 p.m. We will return at approximately 8:30.

Note, this is a Saturday activity and there will be no youth group on Sunday.

October 26: 3:30-5:30 p.m. Trunk 'n Treat

Come help set-up and host a Trunk for Trunk in Treat! Come in costume and welcome the kids from our church's neighborhood. Pastor Ruth will be on vacation so check in with Pastor Carolyn at 3:30 for how you can help at our church's program!

Pizza and Planning

Our Pizza and Planners have picked out every single youth group activity for this fall, helped design the postcards you get in the mail, and they are looking toward planning a lock-in sometime in December. So far, our Pizza and Planners are Colby Dragon, Jacob Hemmings, Kevin Russell, and Laramie Hevland. We'd love it if you joined us to help too! Look to the Youth News for the next meeting time!



Want to be on the youth news email list? Email PastorRuth@fumcoly.org and she'll add you!

Pastor's Letter

When I was a little boy, my mother shared a book of poems with me, and one poem has stayed with me all of these years. It is called "Little Drops of Water" and it goes like this...

Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty oceans,
And the pleasant land.
Thus the little minutes,
Humble though they be,
Make the mighty ages
Of eternity.

I take comfort in the simple theme of these rhyming words from my childhood that in their sing-song rhythm remind me that the little things matter because they add up to the big things. In the same sense of not building

Rome in a day, good things come to those who wait, and the whole is greater than the sum of the parts, the poem calms me down when I think progress on personal or work goals ought to come faster.

Change is coming to First Church Olympia, but it comes in small incremental adjustments far more often than big shifts in focus. As I get to know you, and as you get to know me, we are finding our way into a future that only God knows. It is a future rooted and grounded in each of our past experiences, and infused with each of our potentials and dreams, and it is a future that is nurtured by all of our prayers and the power of God's Holy Spirit moving among us.

Pray for your church and your pastors, and I will see you in church!

Pastor Peter

Brown Bag Bible Study

Join Pastor Peter for a Friday noon Bible study in the Gathering Place. Come as you are able; eat lunch and discuss the scripture of the day. Everything is done by a little before 1:00 p.m.

Third Graders, mark your calendars for Bible presentation, November 9, either service

As is the tradition in our congregation, children in third grade (or if you're new and older, you can get one, too!) are presented with their own Bible as a gift from their church family. Please let the church office know what name you would like on the bookplate in the front of the Bible, 943-2661.

You will be invited forward during the service to be given your own Bible.



Monday Video Series FOLLOW with Andy Stanley

Sept. 22 - Nov. 17

6:30-8:00pm in the Great Hall

(not meeting October 20. All-Church Conference meets instead)

Come for a great time of learning in the church family atmosphere.

Come to all or as many sessions as you can.

Sunday Classes, 10:00 a.m.

You're never too old to be on the road to becoming a better disciple!

Adults

FaithLink, Rm. 109, connecting faith to news events and to issues in culture and in the church; each week stands alone; all are welcome to join as they are able; led by Mark Bergeson

New Beginnings Bible Study

, Rm.

222, Sunday morning look at scripture with discussion, led by class participants

Speaking Christian Book Study, Rm. 221, authored by Marcus Borg, this book encourages and challenges Christians to rethink the language, so long used by Christians, and to find deeper meaning; led by Jim Lawson

Youth

Older Teens, Rm. 229, and **Younger Teens**, Rm. 228, we learn about what it means to be Christian disciples in our world of school, social media and community

Children

Toddlers and Twos, in Rm. 107 with their loving childcare workers

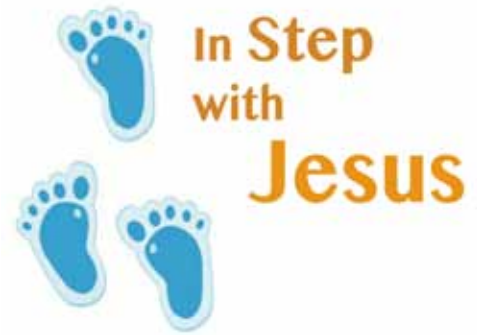
Lighthouse Preschool, in Rm. 108 (ages 3-5), we grow as disciples, proclaim the Good News of God's love and serve Jesus, as we learn about the stories of the Bible.

Lighthouse Workshops, (K-4th grades) We begin the month with our In Step Service Project and then move on to The Parable of the Widow's Mite and the story of the Boy's Lunch. Workshops include HolyWord Theater, Games, Art Studio and Science.

Beacon Rock, (5th-6th grades) in Rm. 224, Looking at Bible stories to see how they help us live our own lives: Leap of Faith: I am part of God's people. We're studying the story of Isaac.

Other Sunday Morning Classes for Children

One-Room Sunday School, (4 yrs - 4th grade), Rm. 118, after Children's Time during 11:15 worship, about 11:30 a.m.; Grow, Proclaim and Serve, we begin with the Bible study of In the Beginning



worship +
...what's your plus?

Friendship Groups at First UMC Olympia

There are three friendship groups that will be going through our fall season at our church. These groups are short term or ongoing opportunities for fellowship and to learn new things.

- Pastor Carolyn is leading a genealogy group from November 2 to November 23. (See page 9 for more details!).
- Mae Owada and Daniele Essene will continue our Theater Friendship Group from the summer into the fall months.
- Pastor Ruth will teach crocheting class on Wednesday nights at a local coffee shop.
- There will be a Disciple's Path class that we highly encourage all new members and people new to our FUMCO community to dive into. This class also parallels Pastor Peter and Pastor Ruth's fall sermon series on the topics shared in September and October.



Look for sign up sheets in the Narthex and you'll hear from each group's coordinators about where and when to meet.

These are a few opportunities that are specifically designed for all of us to get to know our church community and to get to know each other better. Yet there are many other ways that you can jump in to our church, found within these pages, including joining our choirs, stopping by the brown bag Bible study, helping with gleaning, sitting in a prayer vigil, or even hosting a Trunk n' Treat as we share Halloween in a fun and safe way in our neighborhood.

We are making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world
*by gratefully worshipping God, joyfully learning discipleship, gracefully cherishing one another,
and faithfully serving the world under the guidance and through the power of the Holy Spirit.*