

WASHOUGAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



July 2025



Sermon Schedule

July 6

St. Francis of Assisi
Patron Saint of animals and
the natural world
12th Century



July 13

Susanna Wesley
Mother of John & Charles Wesley
17th & 18th Centuries



July 20

Amy Carmichael
Missionary to India who saved
hundreds of girls forced into
temple prostitution
19th & 20th Centuries



July 27

C. S. Lewis
Widely considered to be the most
influential lay theologian of the
20th Century



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Pastor Leslie's Message

Dear Church,

On July 1, 2025 I am beginning my 5th year of appointment at Washougal United Methodist Church.

Back in the spring of 2021, I remember my phone ringing with the Caller ID telling me it was from Rev. Kathleen Weber, the District Superintendent, my then District Supervisor, who had introduced me over zoom a few weeks earlier. I took a breath and answered the call. "We'd like to send you to Washougal United Methodist Church," she told me. "Where is that?" was my response.

Unbeknownst to her, Martin and I had already pulled out the map when we knew my name was up for discussion for a lead pastor position knowing we could be sent anywhere in Alaska, Washington, Idaho, or Oregon. Our first choice was to stay put in the Seattle area. Our second choice was to head near Portland but stay on the Washington side, maybe the Vancouver area. When the call came, it felt like an answered prayer.

Then we learned it was a small church, and the congregation was mostly older, and they had just gone through a really hard period. What were they going to think about their new millennial pastor who didn't even have a child yet?

Then, surrounded by moving boxes, a second line appeared on a pregnancy test, something we had hoped for but hadn't quite expected so soon. What were they going to think about their new pastor who was going to want a maternity leave in her first year?

Then the pandemic continued to hold on longer than anyone thought. I had to meet everyone twice. First, I learned what everyone's eyes looked like, then I had to re-learn everyone's faces, then in January of 2022, we had to pivot back to zoom in the midst of another variant surge. What would happen if we never got to find "normal" life?

All of those fears were valid – and if you were here before I came, maybe you had some of the same ones (maybe you still have them – thanks for holding on, I won't be here forever) but ultimately they were just fears. We might have been a bit of an odd coupling at first, but you have embraced me, loved my family, and given me the space to lead.

There is a popular bit of wisdom that says you will generally overestimate what you can do in one year, and underestimate what you can do in five. As we enter into our 5th year together, I can see that I already underestimated what we could do in 4.

We renovated our entire downstairs, we rebuilt the existing parking lot, we expanded a new one, we've creatively grown the Christmas Bazaar, we've sewn 1,000 dresses, we've donated thousands of pounds of food to our community, we've given away coats and clothes and quilts, we cooked 200 Sunday lunches, we've rearranged the lobby a handful of times, we've gone through dozens of Church seasons, we lit thousands of candles in representation of thousands of prayers to God. And slowly we've grown, and grown, and grown some more.

Washougal UMC is a small church doing big things in our community and around the world.

It is a joy and honor to be your pastor again this year,

Pastor Leslie

I am always available for you if you need prayer, someone to listen, or a friend to grab coffee with.
Please reach out if myself, or our congregation, can support you.

Strengthen Your Family

Strengthen Your Family By Sharing In Its History

By Jack Shitama

Originally published on the blog "The Non-Anxious Leader Blog"

According to Emory University researchers, Marshall Duke and Robyn Fivush, the most important factor in the well-being of children is having a family narrative. This comes from knowing stories such as where their grandparents grew up, how their parents met, what were the family tragedies and even the story of their birth.

Duke and Fivush found that children from families with a strong narrative were more resilient. This makes them better able to navigate the challenges of life, contributing to increased well-being.

There are three types of family narratives. I'll give you a quick rundown.

- Ascending-this is the rags to riches story. "We used to have nothing, but through hard work and sacrifice we got to where we are today."
- Descending-this is the opposite. "We were on top of the world, but lost it all."
- Oscillating-this is the healthiest. "We've had ups and downs in our family. We're grateful for what we have and have stayed close as a family."

Clearly, the third narrative has resilience built into it. But, Duke and Fivush contend that any narrative helps. They say children have more self-confidence when they have a strong "intergenerational self." They are a part of something bigger than themselves.

I grew up listening to the stories that my parents told about growing up as Japanese Americans. We heard these over and over. A small handful became lore in our family. Both my parents were born in Seattle, Washington. Their parents had emigrated from Japan around the turn of the 20th century. Pearl Harbor was a defining moment in my parents' lives, for different reasons.

My mom and her siblings were actually living in Japan at the time of Pearl Harbor. Her parents were in Seattle. They had sent the children to Japan while my grandfather rebuilt the family business, which was hit hard by the Great Depression.

My mom was attending college in Tokyo, but the rest of her family was in Hiroshima, her mother's hometown. She would tell us that the whole college was gathered for the assembly. When she heard the news, she felt the floor spinning out from underneath her. She thought she might never see her parents again. Pearl Harbor was a defining for my father because it meant that President Roosevelt issued executive order 9066, which interned anyone with 1/8 Japanese blood in the interior West.



Strengthen Your Family

As grandparents, my folks continued to tell these stories. Once we were at our annual family Thanksgiving week in Hatteras, North Carolina, when the power went out. Instead of watching TV, movies or playing video games, our children sat with us in a candle-lit living room while my parents told their stories. The kids were mesmerized. It helped them to understand what made their grandparents tick. It helped them to see themselves as a part of something larger than themselves.

The power came back on at about 10 PM. It was like cockroaches scattering when the kitchen light is turned on in the middle of the night. They were gone in seconds. Back to their electronic entertainment. Nonetheless, the stories became an important part of who they are.

A family narrative is strengthened by traditions, holidays, family vacations, regular dinners and even quirky rituals. They help to weave a child's own story into the larger family narrative.

When one of my sons was about five, he asked, "Dad, when I get married, will my wife be a part of the family?"

I said, "Of course."

He replied, "No. I mean, will she get to come to Hatteras?"


For him, being a part of our family meant being a part of our most cherished traditions. That's a good thing.

The family narrative helps to define who we are and what it means to be family.

Whether you are a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or cousin, you can help the children in your family of origin by strengthening the family narrative. Ask the elders in the family to share. If you're an elder, then share your defining moments. It's a gift you can give to the next generation.



Farewell Dear Anton

Congratulations 
Dr. Anton Zotov

Executive Director
Wenatchee Valley Symphony Orchestra



"I have been serving as the Music Worship Director at WUMC for over 7 years. This church, especially the Joyful Noise Ensemble, have become my good friends. The time has come for me to start a new chapter and take on a new challenge.

It's been a great run and I will miss all of you very much!"

With a warm heart,
Anton



Giving Report ~ May

INCOME

General Fund Giving	\$ 8,486.16
Endowment Transfer – Operations	895.98
Ministerial Housing Transfer	2,000.00
Donation	25.00
NW Natural Refund	280.14
Dress-A-Girl	70.00
Trustee Donation	4,131.00
Checking Interest	.85
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$15,889.13</u>

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 11,841.71
Apportionments	1,388.02
Dress-A-Girl Transfer	70.00
Trustee Donation Transfer	4,131.00
Other Expenses	1,797.52
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 14,861.66</u>

TOTAL DEFICIT

\$ 2,525.71

You may remit your Offerings to
PO Box 12, Washougal, Washington 98671

or
Online at
www.washougalunitedmethodistchurch.org

or
Drop in the Offering Plate on Sunday Morning
If you have any questions, feel free to contact

LouAnn Wittler

Financial Secretary
joeandlouann@comcast.net ~ 360.606.2833



Treasure House Food Bank

ONE THOUSAND SIXTY-FOUR POUNDS Of Food Collected for The Treasure House in 30 DAYS!

I don't know about you, but for me, giving feels good! And now that we've been reminded that Treasure House is one of our designated groups that we have supported for many years, *let's not forget in the midst of this joy that we will still collect food monthly.*

The Coffee Group has agreed to deliver the food to Treasure House each month. In turn they will report the pounds collected to Linn and Pastor Leslie. Our food challenge has been a huge help, but people remain hungry in our community year-round. It's our challenge, always, to Feed the Hungry.

Speaking of Treasure House, are you aware that they can use your help in many different ways? At this time, Barb and Tom Crozier and Debbie and Bill Revett volunteer. If you are looking for a way to volunteer, but don't have hours of time, they are available to give you some hints about just what you can do to help.



God Bless You All,
Sandy Hawrelly
Congregational Care Coordinator

They're waiting for your call.
360.834.5786



Happy Birthday



Ginny Hazen	July 01
Uela Spanier	July 13
Tom Crozier	July 19
Ladinea Faler	July 20
Sandy Havrelly	July 28
Linn Jacobs	July 28



Happy Anniversary



Gus & Sandy Havrelly
July 28, 1962



Joe & LouAnn Wittler
July 23, 1967



Robert & Mona Chisholm
July 29, 1995



Prayer Requests

Our Church uses email to send out Prayer Requests.



This is the way we connect our
Washougal United Methodist Church Family
in prayer for those who are in need.

Submit your Prayer Requests to

Sandy Havrelly

Congregational Care Coordinator

Mobile 360.606.8813

gusandsandy62@yahoo.com

Prayer Requests are sent to allow our church body to uphold friends and family members before the Throne of God.

Please respect the privacy of those for whom we pray.

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Page Turners Book Club

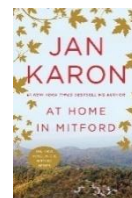
The **Page Turners Book Club** meets on the **THIRD TUESDAY** of each month at **NOON** at **Leonardo's Pizzeria** in Vancouver. Judy Whetzel - 360.835.5230 - maui.born62@gmail.com leads the group and welcomes everyone to join.

Why? It broadens your horizons. It gives you a break amidst the madness of life in 2025.

July

At Home in Mitford, by Jan Karon (Sharon Carmichael)

Father Tim, a gentle Episcopal priest, is grappling with an uneventful, yet contented, existence until a series of unexpected events begin to stir his predictable life. "Buick," the dog, bounds into his life along with a neglected boy. The discovery of stolen jewels weighs heavily on him, as well as secrets of his people, and a condition of his own begins to manifest itself.



August

Hang the Moon, by Jeanette Walls (Debbie Revett)

The story follows Sallie Kincade, the daughter of the most important man in town, whose attempts to teach her young half-brother to be more like their father, end in an accident. After being banished to live with her aunt for many years, Sallie returns to claim her place in the family.



Church Picnic ~ August 2025

Church Picnic

Hosted by Mike & Sharon Carmichael
1001 NE 248th Avenue ~ Camas



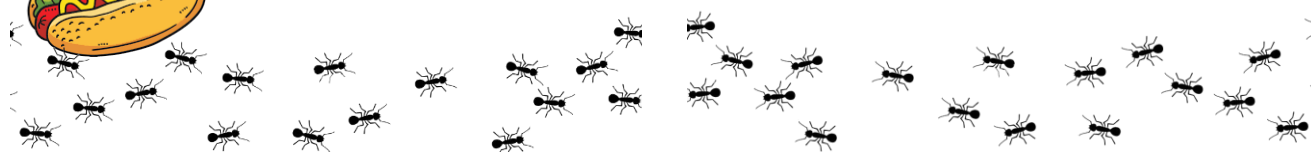
Saturday 🍔 August 2, 2025 🍰 NOON

RSVP 360-834-5466 ~ Sign Up In The Narthex

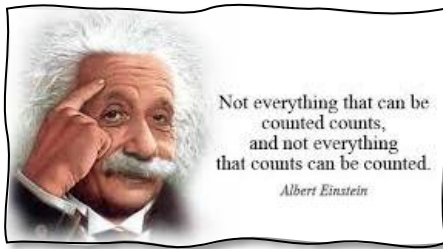


Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Cold Soda Pop & Water Provided

OR BYOB



Where Did That Saying Come ?



"Bite the bullet" ... Sometime between the 18th and 19th century, the expression originated from outdated medical practices, especially for soldiers. Back in the day, to distract patients (since anesthesia was not a thing yet), doctors would have them bite down on a literal bullet.

"Crocodile tears" ... This phrase originated from the belief that crocodiles cry, but the tears produced by crocodiles are not emotionally driven.

"Cat got your tongue?" ... An example of an expression being lost to time, but there are some theories. With the least clear origins of the bunch on this list, some believe it is related to ancient Egyptians cutting out tongues

and feeding them to cats. Yuck.

"Caught red-handed" ... A saying with origins dating back to 15th-century Scotland. Caught red-handed is referred to being found with blood on your hands after they have committed a crime. So, not the Cookie Jar, then?

"Waking up on the wrong side of the bed" ... A Roman superstition... positive forces await on the literal right side of the bed. However, if you get out of bed on the left side, well, just don't do it.

"Can't hold a candle" ... This one dates back to the 17th century, and its meaning is related to one's incompetence. The saying came from talking about an apprentice who was not even skillful enough to hold a candle for his master.

"Rub the wrong way" ... Meow. The origins of this phrase refers to cats, specifically rubbing their fur in the wrong direction as written in Mary Hughes' *Aunt Mary's Tales* in 1819.

"Bury the hatchet" ... When two Native American tribes decided to settle their differences and live in harmony, the chief of each tribe buried a war hatchet in the ground to signify their agreement.

"Cold feet" ... The expression is used most for backing out of engagements, but the origin of the saying refers to simply losing interest in something.

"Show your true colors" ... Lowering your colors aboard a ship to hide your nation's flag is a strategic move. In a naval battle, if you hoist your flag high after hiding it, you are showing your true colors.

"Put a sock in it" ... I wish I had a whacky story about a man shoving a sock puppet into the mouth of another man, but this one is pretty basic. It is simply British slang used in the 20th century to request a talkative or noisy person simply "shut their lips."

"Steal your thunder" ... This idiom might have the funniest origin, and came from the 18th century. Dramatist John Dennis created an idea for a thunder machine for his play *Appius and Virginia*, but it didn't work.

Fast-forward to the little-known production *Macbeth*, and alas, his idea was stolen for the play's production.

"Spill the beans" ... Like most on here, it is pretty controversial where exactly the phrase originated, but one explanation dates back to ancient Greece. People would vote anonymously using white and black beans as a simple "yay" or "nay."

"No pot to piss in or window to throw it from" ... It's vulgar, it's evocative, it's distinctively American. It refers to the historical practice of using chamber pots in the absence of indoor plumbing. To be penniless. Destitute. Down on one's luck.

"Butter someone up" ... This saying is thought to have originated from a practice in ancient India where people would offer balls of butter to idols to gain favor.

"Get off your high horse" ... This phrase likely comes from the medieval practice of high-ranking individuals riding large horses to display their power and superiority and acting pompous or self-righteous.

"Turn a blind eye" ... This saying is believed to have originated from Admiral Nelson, who, while injured, put a telescope to his blind eye to signal that he could not see the order to retreat.

When you turn a blind eye to atrocities, you are complicit in them.

Online Church Directory



Our Online Church **DIRECTORY**

How do I access the Online Directory?

Your protected personal information is a key component of operations at WUMC.

To access our Online Directory, simply contact the Church Office for our Servant Keeper Log in and Password, write it down and keep it with your other personal Top-Secret Passwords.

How do I update my contact information?

Visit the Servant Keeper website provided by the Church Office. Create your own unique Member Login by entering your email and creating a password (this is a different password from the one provided). You will be directed to the Membership Portal where you can ensure your family's information is complete and correct.

Who will be able to see my information?

The Online Directory is PRIVATE and PASSWORD PROTECTED.

It is managed by the church office. Only those who have the password will be able to view it. The Online Directory, as well as any printed Church Family Directories are intended for personal use only and not for business or other commercial or marketing purposes.

What if I don't want to be in the Online Directory?

If you provided your contact information for the previous paper Church Directory, you will automatically be visible in the Online Directory. However, if you do not wish to have your information visible to others online, you must set up your unique account and choose the option to disable your profile visibility. If you make your profile invisible, you will still be able to log into the Online Directory and see the profiles of other Washougal United Methodist Church members, but they will not see yours.



July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The Church Office will be closed on Friday July 4 th and Monday, July 7 th in honor of Independence Day						
						
		1	2	3	4	5
		Lattes with Pastor Leslie ~ 9:30-11 Washougal Coffee Co. Happy Birthday Ginny!				
Communion 6	Office Closed 7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00	Men's Coffee ~ 9 Quilters/Crafters 10 ~ 2	Lattes with Pastor Leslie 9:30-11 Washougal Coffee Co.				
13	14	15	Nat'l Hot Dog Day 16	17	18	19
Worship ~ 10 Coffee Hour 11 Happy Birthday Uleal!	Men's Coffee ~ 9 Quilters/Crafters 10 ~ 2	Lattes with Pastor Leslie ~ 9:30-11 Washougal Coffee Co. Page Turners Noon ~ Leonardo's Pizzeria		Council 3:00		Happy Birthday Tom Crozier!
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship ~ 10 Potluck Sunday 11 Happy Birthday Ladineal!	Men's Coffee ~ 9 Quilters/Crafters 10 ~ 2	Lattes with Pastor Leslie ~ 9:30-11 Washougal Coffee Co.	Happy Anniversary Joe & LouAnn!			
Parents Day 27	28	29	30	31		
Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour 11	Men's Coffee ~ 9 Quilters/Crafters 10 ~ 2 Happy Birthday Linn! Happy Birthday Sandy! Happy Anniversary Gus & Sandy	Lattes with Pastor Leslie ~ 9:30-11 Washougal Coffee Co. Happy Anniversary Robert & Mona				