

# WASHOUGAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## June 2025

HAPPY  
**2025**  
PRIDE MONTH  
*love is love*



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**HAPPY  
FATHER'S DAY  
GOD!**

# Pastor Leslie's Message

Dear Church Family,

Last month, my husband and I went on a vacation. We had friends getting married on the San Juan Islands and decided to extend it a few days for our first kid-free trip since Luca was born. It was glorious! We took walks on the beach, explored the shops, read books with no pictures, took our time eating meals, and mainly just enjoyed each other's company. We topped it off by catching up with old friends as we celebrated a new family being established.

Last summer, we talked about rest and celebration as spiritual disciplines. Rest teaches us that we are not God, the world will still turn if we sit still. Celebration is a way to stand against the darkness in the world. Not because we choose to ignore it – but we refuse to let it consume us. Both rest and celebration are practices that forces us to declare that we believe that God is good, there is joy in the world, and that Love will win. They are disciplines because they can be hard. In some ways, it felt uncomfortable to go on a vacation. We listened to a news podcast on our way out of town. You don't need me to tell you that it wasn't super uplifting. The same thoughts I'd had for weeks invaded, "in the midst of everything going on right now, you decided to go galivanting off to an island to bask in tranquility and indulge in overpriced yet delicious coffee? *Must be nice...*"



The truth was, it was nice! It was an absolute privilege to be able to turn off email notifications, leave my laptop behind, and explore the world God has granted us to for our short time here. But the best part of our vacation? Feeling rested and ready to go home by the end. Being excited to show up fully because I was refueled.

There is a reason we see Jesus time and time again go off from the crowds to be someplace quiet. There is a reason we are called to rest. The Bible gives us the minimums: 24 hours, once a week (Exodus 20:9-11), 1 year, every seven years (Exodus 23 and Leviticus 25), and a full societal reset every 50 years (Leviticus 25-27). God created us to be people of rest. Physical and emotional burnout is real, and it should not be a badge of honor. When our bodies and souls are so depleted that they can no longer function, we are not much use to the world. Some seasons call for us to push through but this also means that some seasons we need to take a vacation. If you are in the former, make sure you prioritize the latter. Because when we are rested, when we choose to set time aside to celebrate, we are able to be fully present in everything else.

# Pastor Leslie's Message

Maybe you aren't in a season of burnout, maybe you are doing great! Every day is filled with moments of rest and enjoyment. Let me tell you about the real MVPs of our recent trip. Two people we like to call Grandpa and Gram Grams. Martin and I would have never been able to rest without his parents who agreed to watch our tornado of a toddler for the week. While we had slow mornings and went for leisurely strolls around town, they went to every park in the greater Seattle area, learned all about the plotline of Paw Patrol, and were reminded that 3-year-olds have two speeds: full blast or passed out. They told us they had a wonderful time... and that they were also ready for us to go home.

Rest is not always as easy as taking off. It often requires logistics. Who is going to cover for you at all the things you do? Who will care for the pets and plants and people who depend on you? How will you do all the preparation to be away when you can barely get through today? Rest can be hard, but it is worth it. And if you are rested, remember that it often requires logistics for those that don't have it. How can you step in to help those who need a turn? We are one family, joined together through Jesus. When one person struggles, we are all called to support. Which means that sometimes you get to step in and sometimes you are the one who gets to be supported.

Finally, you don't have to plan a vacation somewhere else to get some rest and you don't have to go to a party to celebrate. It's nice if you can, it's just not necessary. What is necessary is slowing down and shutting off, often. Once a week at a minimum! Being rested often makes it easier to find the things to celebrate in everyday life. I'm not perfect, I'll admit I've been less than ideal at this one. Spiritual disciplines require practice because they are hard. But the more you practice the stronger you get. This summer let's practice some rest. This summer let's remember to celebrate.



It is my joy and honor to be your pastor.

*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.

# Church Council News

It's been a while since I updated you on the actions of the Church Council. We created goals for 2025, which I'm sharing with you below. Our trustees, led by Joe Wittler, report that the new gravel parking lot will be finished with its entrance to the main lot as soon as the contractor fits it into their schedule. *(Funds are being withheld until completion.)*

We celebrate our increased giving and attendance at services as reported at our meetings.



## WUMC 2025 Goals

These goal categories reflect the specific priorities that were voted on at a Special Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Conference. The items below each main heading are possible ways that we can meet these goals in the coming year(s), as developed by the WUMC Church Council this year.

### Climate Care/Climate Change, "Environmental Care"

- ❖ New news! We welcome the possibility of having the new "Community Compost Bin" on our property. At the May 15 Church Council Meeting, the Council voted to proceed with this process, known as "We Compost," administered by Waste Connections. Watch for more information.
- ❖ Transition to environmentally safe cleaning products
- ❖ Plant some native trees, suitable for our changing climate
- ❖ Engage in individual climate care, perhaps starting with the distribution of a list of ways we can do this

### Form interactions with youth/young people

- ❖ Continue to welcome high school students as they use our property for lunch, breaks
- ❖ Connect with the high school to better understand their needs
- ❖ Invite their musical groups to perform here
- ❖ Support high school events by attending their pie sale, theater performances, and choir concerts
- ❖ Ask to be added to the high school newsletter/communications distribution list to the extent allowed by the school district
- ❖ Find and provide information on volunteer opportunities for individuals to serve youth

### Housing/Hunger/Health

- ❖ Empower Judy Barber to connect with the managers of the two low-income housing areas in Washougal to assess their needs for young people
- ❖ Work toward specific actions to meet some of those needs, even as simple as sending birthday cards to the children
- ❖ Continue our engagement with Treasure House and Hathaway Elementary School

# Church Council News

## Equity/Justice/Anti-racism

**W.W.J.D**  
**WHAT WOULD**  
**JESUS DO?**

As a reconciling church, ensure that all people who come to our church are welcome, included, and loved.

- Include United Methodist unity flag in bulletin and sign on front window
- Notice and act on the little things, such as being available to help with wheelchairs, etc. in the parking lot
- Set the example that wheelchairs and walkers may be in the center aisle

- ❖ Rotate at the bottom of bulletins: “What Would Jesus do” and “Everyone who comes to our church will know that they are welcome” etc.
- ❖ Pray for all people
- ❖ Hold booths for our church at community events that include statements such as those above

## Spiritual Foundation/Discipleship

- ❖ Perform special music monthly as it's possible (choir or other)
- ❖ Plan a cantata within the next 2-3 years
- ❖ Continue the parking lot project to allow easy parking for our worship services
- ❖ Increase weekly attendance to 45-50
  - Personal invitations
  - Add more of our activities to Facebook and the website
  - Continue to supply the quiet activities packets for children
  - Consider a book exchange shelf
  - Publish community service ideas in newsletter



Warmest regards,  
*Barb Crozier*  
Church Council Chair





# April Giving Report

*Income Statement for Month Ended April 30, 2025*

## INCOME

General Fund Giving	\$ 10,741.70
Endowment Transfer - Operations	895.88
Ministerial Housing Transfer	2,000.00
Donation	100.00
Dress-A-Girl	551.00
Checking Interest	0.77
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ <u>14,289.45</u></b>

## EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 10,702.45
Apportionments	1,501.02
Dress-A-Girl Transfer	551.00
Other Expenses	1,778.18
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ <u>14,532.65</u></b>

## DEFICIT

**TOTAL JUNE DEFICIT \$ 243.20**



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

OR ... Online at  
[www.washougalunitedmethodistchurch.org](http://www.washougalunitedmethodistchurch.org)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact

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Financial Secretary

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Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Luke 6:38

# Happy Birthday



Linda McMahon  
Rick Kelly  
Bridget Garver  
Brenda Cotton

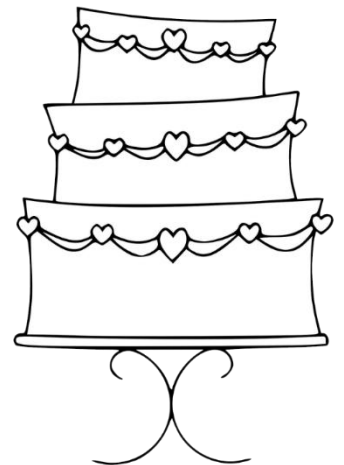
June 2  
June 5  
June 16  
June 26

# Happy Anniversary



Joe & Martha  
Kelly

June 14, 1958



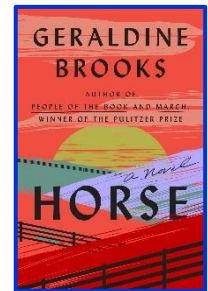
# Page Turners

## JUNE'S BOOK

### Horse, by Gerldine Brooks

(recommended by Judy Whetzel)

An enslaved groom, Jarret, and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South. When the Nation erupts in the Civil War, an itinerant young artist, who has made his name on paintings of the racehorse, takes up arms for the Union.



## Summer Church Cleaning



### SIGN UP IN THE CHURCH OFFICE TO **CLEAN THE CHURCH**

Clean the Church Once a MONTH this summer

There are still openings for

**June, July & August**

Light duties are listed on the clip board.

## Lattes with Pastor Leslie

This summer, starting on **JUNE 17**,  
every **TUESDAY** morning from **9:30 – 11:00 am**

Pastor Leslie will be at

**WASHOUGAL COFFEE COMPANY.**

You are invited to stop by to enjoy a cup of coffee and chat about life, ask questions about theology, share pictures of your grandbabies, ask for prayer, or just have some company. You can come just once or every week and you are welcome to stop by for 5 minutes or for the entire time.

Come alone or bring a friend. There is no schedule and no RSVP necessary! Sometimes dropping by a church office feels formal, so a change of scenery is just what the summer ordered!

Washougal Coffee Company is located at 1700 Main Street – Suite #130.





# The Heartfelt Quilters

by Sandy Havrelly ~ WUMC Congregational Care Coordinator

Recently the Heartfelt Quilters were gifted with 3 sewing machines from total strangers. Following is how it all went down.



Church Phone:

Ring, Ring

Secretary:

Washougal United Methodist Church, this is Mona.

Caller:

Hello, my name is Linda McPherson, and I would like to be connected with the person in charge of the Heartfelt Quilters, *(stammering)* I mean QUILTERS. I have a sewing machine I would like to donate to the church.

Secretary:

I will be happy to connect you with Cleta Gilman. She will call you in the next day or two.

Cleta connected with Linda, who was calling from Scappoose, Oregon. When asked how she had learned about the WUMC Heartfelt Quilters, Cleta was shown a picture of the tag that was placed inside one of the blankets that was donated to the hospital in honor of their friend. Their friend passed away, but before she did, she made it very clear to her friends that she wanted her sewing machines to go to the group that was making quilts for charity and donating them to the hospital. As time passed, they remembered the quilt, took a snapshot of the tag and called the church. Arrangements were made to bring not one, but THREE sewing machines to Cleta's Shoppe in Camas, Washington. Since then, two of the machines have been positioned at new stations at Cleta's Shoppe for the Heartfelt Quilters to continue their mission work. The third sewing machine will be sold and that money will be used to purchase more supplies.



The Heartfelt Quilter Mission works in mysterious ways.  
God is love!

# The Treasure House Challenge

by Sandy Havrelly ~ WUMC Congregational Care Coordinator

Following Pastor Leslie's sermon on May 4th, the Heartfelt Quilters became energized about how we, the WUMC family, could be of more help to The Treasure House. In her sermon, Pastor noted that 16.3% of families in Washougal are on food stamps which equals 987 households. In Clark County, children represent 52.7% of that total, and the Elderly represent 27.1%. Approximately 2,143 people are on food stamps in Clark County. She noted that 2,143 people eating 3 meals per day in a year totals 2,346,585 meals. Sadly, some will not get free meals each day. She also noted that Clark County has a much higher percentage of children on food stamps than the national average. (52.7% vs 40%) In Washougal 16.3% of families are on food stamps equaling about 987 households. That's heartbreaking!

On the following Monday, as the Heartfelt Quilters were working on quilts, they threw around some ideas and have come up with a CHALLENGE. Each quilter has committed to purchasing \$50 worth of food in the month of June for The Treasure House. In turn they are challenging **each of you to join in the fun!** If we break down the \$50 you will note that works out to approximately \$1.66 per day in the month of June. If each of us really thought about it, we could find \$1.66 of something to give up each day. For instance, a cup of coffee can't be found for much less than \$4.00. What can you give up to help feed the hungry?

The "**Change for Change**" jar will be on the back altar during the month of June for those who would rather donate cash and let someone else purchase the food. You are encouraged to purchase the food because you will have the gratification of having gone out of your way to help others. (DOING) At the same time we understand that for some it is difficult to purchase and then carry the items. Choose the method that fills your soul with gratitude.

The suggestion has been made that we focus on high protein food such as tuna, chili, canned chicken, peanut butter, etc. Purchasing a case of one item may make it easier for you and for The Treasure House.

Okay! Let's get DOING and sharing God's love!

The Heartfelt Quilters have committed...now it's your turn! Let's go!



# Father's Day is the 15<sup>th</sup>



There are a range of events which may have inspired the idea of Father's Day.

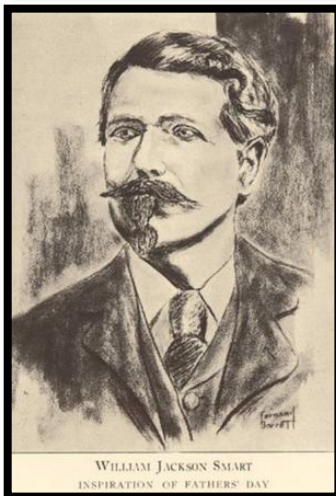
One of these was the start of the Mother's Day tradition in the first decade of the 20th century. Another was a memorial service held in 1908 for a large group of men, many of them fathers, who were killed in a mining accident in Monongah, West Virginia in December 1907.

A woman called Sonora Smart Dodd was an influential figure in the establishment of Father's Day. Her father raised six children by himself after the death of their mother. This was uncommon at that time, as many widowers placed their children in the care of others or quickly married again.








Sonora was inspired by the work of Anna Jarvis, who had pushed for Mother's Day celebrations. Sonora felt that her father deserved recognition for what he had done. The first time Father's Day was held in June was in 1910. Father's Day was officially recognized as a holiday in 1972 by President Nixon.

It's been said that because of Sonora's actions, the Father's Day recognition put Spokane, Washington on the map 😊



# June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 1	Linda McMahon BD 2	3	4	Rick Kelly BD 5	6	7
Worship 10 Coffee Hour 11 Ascension Sunday	Men's Coffee 9 Quilters/Crafters 10-2 Cleta's Shoppe					
Pentecost 8	9	10	11	12	13	The Kelly's 67 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 14
Worship 10 Coffee Hour 11	Men's Coffee 9 Quilters/Crafters 10-2 Cleta's Shoppe					
Father's Day Trinity Sunday 15	16	17	18	19	Summer Solstice 20	21
Worship 10 POTLUCK 11	Men's Coffee 9 Quilters/Crafters 10-2 Cleta's Shoppe	Lattes w/Pastor Leslie - 9:30-11 Washougal Coffee Company				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Worship 10 Coffee Hour 11	Men's Coffee 9 Quilters/Crafters 10-2 Cleta's Shoppe	Lattes w/Pastor Leslie 9:30-11 Hungry Page Turners – Noon				
29	30					
Worship 10 Coffee Hour 11	Men's Coffee 9 Quilters/Crafters 10-2 Cleta's Shoppe					