



SEPTEMBER 2025



*For everything
there is a season*

AND A TIME FOR EVERY MATTER
UNDER HEAVEN: A TIME TO BE BORN, AND
A TIME TO DIE; A TIME TO PLANT, AND A
TIME TO PLUCK UP WHAT IS PLANTED; A
TIME TO KILL, AND A TIME TO HEAL; A TIME
TO BREAK DOWN, AND A TIME TO BUILD UP;
A TIME TO WEEP, AND A TIME TO LAUGH;
A TIME TO MOURN, AND A TIME TO DANCE;
A TIME TO CAST AWAY STONES, AND A TIME
TO GATHER STONES TOGETHER; A TIME TO
EMBRACE, AND A TIME TO REFRAIN FROM
EMBRACING; A TIME TO SEEK, AND A TIME
TO LOSE; A TIME TO KEEP, AND A TIME TO
CAST AWAY; A TIME TO TEAR, AND A TIME
TO SEW; A TIME TO KEEP SILENCE, AND
A TIME TO SPEAK; A TIME TO LOVE, AND
A TIME TO HATE; A TIME FOR WAR,
and a time for peace

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-8



In This Issue

Pastor Leslie's Message	2
Church Council	3
Giving	4
Anniversaries & Birthdays	5
Hathaway School Supply Drive	6-7
Holiday Bazaar	8
New To You	9
The Treasure House Thank You	10
News from Anton Zotov	11
Page Turners Book Club	12-14
JOY ~ Just Older Youth	15
Empty Bowls	16
Lutheran Choral Fall Concert	17
September Calendar of Events	18



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Church,

I went to a coffee shop yesterday and prominently displayed was a list of their Autumn specials. Then the grocery store had a display of pumpkin spiced everything! After that I watched a commercial informing me that sweater weather was here and I could buy some cozy clothes for 30% off this weekend. Lastly, I stepped outside and reality told me it was 90F.

Despite the lingering warm days, this month does signal a change in the seasons. Usually by the end of the month, I'll walk into my office and find my window A/C unit has disappeared. The sun will start dipping low in the sky on my drive home. We will have to pack up Luca's summer wardrobe and buy him the next size up in long sleeves and pants. I'm already thinking about what we are going to be focusing on during Advent. As much as I may not want it to, the world will continue spinning at a speed I often think is too fast.

And yet, Fall doesn't actually start until the 22nd of this month. On Labor Day, you've still got 3 weeks of summer left. I know many of you are looking forward to the cooler weather and the rain. Both my husband and son are born and bred Pacific Northwest boys. They love the rain in a way I have never understood. But regardless of our weather preferences, we all often find ourselves in moments of feeling like life is going too fast. We have too much to do and not enough time to do it and before we know it Christmas will be here (cue: holiday panic)! We get so focused on what is next that we forget what is in front of us.



In Matthew 6:34, Jesus says, "Stop worrying about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Notice Jesus isn't telling us not to *plan* for tomorrow, just that we aren't supposed to *worry* about tomorrow. And why? Because today has enough things to worry about, thank you very much. On the flip side, today also has enough to celebrate that we don't have to long for tomorrow either. So for today, the windows will remain open. The freezer will stay stocked with popsicles. Trips to the park will be often. I know I can't stop the rain from coming but it's not in the forecast yet. I'll worry about it later. And when we get there, I do enjoy a cozy fire. Amen.

It is a joy and honor to be your pastor,

Pastor Leslie

PS: Latte's with Pastor Leslie is over for this summer. It was wonderful to see so many of you on Tuesday mornings! My love for coffee remains so if you are ever in the mood to grab a pumpkin spice latte and talk please let me know and I would be delighted to meet up.


CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

Submitted by Barb Crozier ~ Church Council Chair



Three THANK YOU Cards signed by the congregation were mailed to Laura Velonza, PNW District Administrator for her diligent & behind the scenes work over the past several years.

"I have always been told that I can get along with anyone," offered Laura, who came to work in The United Methodist Church after leaving a job managing 220 apartments with Rockwood Property Management. "I am someone who really does enjoy meeting people. So far, this position has allowed me to meet some amazing people, and I have learned something new every day. I count that as a blessing."

Congratulations 
Janet Orzala

The SPRC (Staff/Parish Relations Committee) is thrilled to announce that Janet has accepted the position of WUMC Music Director. She is well qualified in that her past musical experience has been in service to former churches in a variety of roles, including that of Choir Director.

Please join us as we give Janet a warm welcome.



Your WUMC
Church
COUNCIL

is busy planning the 2026 Budget.



GIVING * JULY

INCOME

General Fund Giving	\$ 7,983.83
Endowment Transfer - Operations	895.98
Ministerial Housing Transfer	2,000.00
Checking Interest	<u>0.86</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 10,880.67</u>

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$10,983.72
Apportionments	1,501.02
Other Expenses	<u>3,352.04</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 15,836.78</u>

NET DEFICIT

\$ 4,956.11

We invite you to continue giving according to your ability.



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

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together,
running over, will be put into your lap.

For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

Luke 6:38

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



JOE WITTLER 1st

KATHY MCKINLEY 6th

JEAN LEAVITT 20th

MARK GUZ 24th

SHARRY MONROE 30th



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Paul & Cathy Morton-Greenlee
September 02, 2011

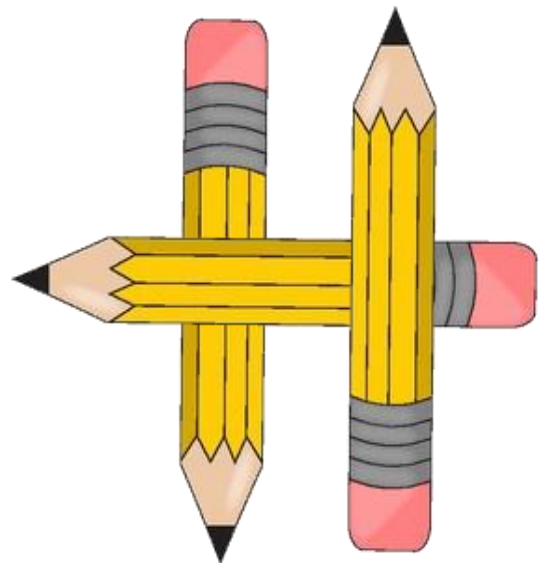


Bill & Debbie Revett
September 24, 2009

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

The WUMC 2025-26 Annual Hathaway Elementary School Supply Drive was once again a resounding success. Thank you from my heart for your gift to the children.

Chuckie Smiley



It's A PERSONAL MISSION

by
Sandy Havrelly ~ WUMC Congregational Care Coordinator

I am personally and continually blessed as I watch our congregation “step up to the plate” to help those we can. Hathaway School has been in a long-time partnership with WUMC, helping where and when we can. We have supplied school materials for those whose families cannot afford to purchase the requested items. Hathaway’s Community Resource Director, Nancy Boone, distributes the items as needed.

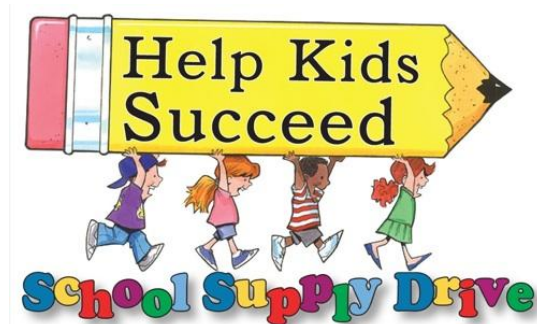


I believe I’ve shared this story once before, but I think it is worth re-telling. I have a deep passion for helping children that are in a position to be unable to help themselves. I believe it stems from this episode in our (*Chuckie & Cleta and Rosi & Grover & Jim & Me*) mother’s life that she shared with us. Our mother moved to Clark County from South Dakota in the late ‘30’s...dust bowl time... with her Grandmother and Grandfather. At some point they had to live in the Clark County “poor house.” It was located in Hazel Dell and now serves as the County Extension Offices. She told us how badly she felt walking to school being harassed because she came from the ‘poor house.’ Those episodes left her feeling like she didn’t belong.

They then moved from the “poor house” to Washougal. She said she was frightened to go to another new school. She feared being harassed because she was “new” and didn’t know what to do. When she was settled into her desk in her new classroom, the teacher told them to take out a pencil. *She had no pencil!* Immediately all those fears of inadequacy sprung up. She said it was all she could do to hold back her tears. And then, a miracle happened. A girl sitting next to her leaned over and gave her one of her pencils. Mom said she never forgot that kindness.

Her sharing that heart-breaking story and other acts of mercy shown her *plus* observing how giving our parents were during our growing up years lead us kids to believe deeply in this WUMC School Supply Drive Mission. Children deserve to feel loved and cared for! I love that you continue to do so!

By the way, Mom and that girl sitting next to her on her first day of school in Washougal became life-long friends. ❤️



We won’t be able to actually “see” who we help at Hathaway, but that doesn’t matter! It’s the heart to give and serve that fills us all with compassionate love.

Even though August 24th was our last official day to donate items for the Hathaway School Supply Drive, Chuckie Smiley, who heads this mission, will see that all items coming in during the month of September will be delivered to Hathaway.



Holiday BAZAAR

As of September 1st, there are only 67 Days until it all begins

Friday November 7 from 4-7pm
Saturday November 8 from 9-3pm

Lucky Sandy got a sneak peek at the handiwork of Starla Ryan and Mark Guz! We'll just have to wait a bit longer to see for ourselves.

It's amazing what beauty and creativity they create out of what some might call junk.

I also got to see photos of Judy Whetzel's glass work. She has branched out from lovely earrings to making gorgeous wind chimes and other beautiful works.

Chuckie is hard at work making beautiful and cute runners for the center of our tables, and darling potholders and, and, and ...

I'm wondering who else might be up to something fun to share!

NEW TO YOU

Thank you ALL for your generous NEW TO YOU Donations of Christmas décor, beautiful holiday dishes, a full set of vintage dishes, beautiful sculptures, and the list goes on and on and on.

Every Wednesday morning you can find these gals and a host of others not pictured here busily pricing the wonderful NEW TO YOU items that our WUMC Family has donated over the past several months. They're ready for MORE! Keep 'em comin'!



Shirlee Dedmore ♥ Patti Johnson ♥ Linda McMahon ♥ Sandy Havrelly

The items you are donating to the "New to You" section are amazing!

For instance ...

That push-button land line telephone is disguised as a motorcycle! What motorbike enthusiast wouldn't NEED this piece of vintage whimsy?



I DON'T WANT TO.
I DON'T HAVE TO.
YOU CAN'T MAKE ME.
I'M RETIRED.



THE TREASURE HOUSE

Your WUMC Council wants you to know that this congregation donated \$720 in June to The Treasure House and received this note as a Thank You.



91 "C" Street - Washougal, WA
P O Box 815 - Camas, WA
360-834-4181

Inter-Faith Treasure House would like to let you know that by donating to us you have made difference to the people in our community.

Food boxes 444 families (over 1,426 individuals) found they were in need of food this month. Monday through Friday Inter-Faith Treasure House provides boxes of food for the hungry. Treasure House now is now giving out USDA Commodities in each food box. That way we serve more families and they receive more food. We are open Monday through Friday from 10:00 - 2:00.

Bread Racks - have been moved inside the building, and are available to everyone. Limits do apply. The coolers have remained outside and those contain produce, deli, and seafood.

Wire Rack - is back inside the building. Miscellaneous products are located there. There are limits on those products.

Other Outreach Programs - Suspended. We are recovering from being closed for three years. We are concentrating on being a foodbank right now.

Back Pack Home Program - this program ended at the end of June and will start again in September. We did give protein bars and cookies to the Refuel summer lunch program for kids up to 18 at Hathaway Park.

Treasure House Thrift Store is open Monday - Friday 10:00 - 2:00. Donations are being accepted during these hours, unless full. If the donation station doors are closed we are full of donations at that time. Food is always welcome.

Thank you for making all this possible

ANTON SAYS “HI”



I just wanted to say Hi! to everyone at Washougal United Methodist Church and invite you to listen to my latest podcast with the Wenatchee World Newspaper.

I thought you might like to listen to and learn about what we are up to in Wenatchee.

Anton Zotov

Executive Director



PS: Mom says “Hi”



Listen to the Podcast on YouTube at the link below.
Title: Anton Zotov on Guidng the Symphony into its 79th Season.

<https://youtu.be/YmS7nA0xVVg?si=vcfmpsFBmPcNH1r>

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

The WUMC Page Turners Book Club has reviewed and voted on the books they wish to read and discuss with the members all the way through June of 2026. Everyone is invited to jump in at any time. The more the merrier!

September ~ Mad Honey

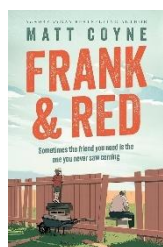
by Jody Picoult & Jennifer Finney Boylan

A single mom and domestic abuse survivor, Olivia, has escaped her past and built a new life for herself and her son, Asher, in a small town. When Asher is arrested for murder of his girlfriend, Lily, she risks everything to defend him - even as it turns her life upside down. The story explores gender identity, friendship and self-acceptance.



October ~ Frank and Red

by Matt Coyne



Six year old Red is coming to terms with his parents separation which has meant he had to move house to a completely different part of London where he doesn't know anyone and has to adapt to being the new boy at school whereas sexagenarian Frank has struggled to cope since his wife died and is now living a small life.

November ~ Write My Name Across the Sky

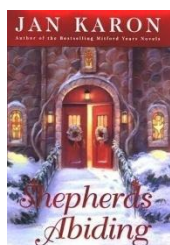
by Barbara O'Neal

The plot follows Lucy Cola as she returns to Earth after a transcendent experience in space, only to find herself losing touch with reality as her life unravels. Struggling to readjust to life on Earth, Lucy embarks on a dangerous emotional and psychological journey that tests her grip on sanity.



December ~ Shepherds Abiding

By Jan Karon

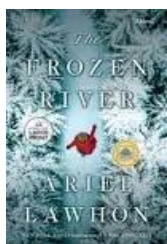


Since he was a boy, Father Tim has lived what he calls "the life of the mind" and has never really learned to savor the work of his hands. When he finds a derelict nativity scene that has suffered the indignities of time and neglect, he imagines the excitement in the eyes of his wife, Cynthia, and decides to undertake the daunting task of restoring it. As Father Tim begins his journey, readers are given a seat at Mitford's holiday table and treated to a magical tale about the true Christmas spirit.

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

January ~ The Frozen River

by Ariel Lawton



The Frozen River by Ariel Lawton is a historical mystery novel set in 1789 Maine, centered on midwife Martha Ballard as she investigates the death of a man pulled from the frozen Kennebec River, uncovering a scandal that involves a respected town gentleman accused of rape. As Martha, using her professional skills and detailed diary, seeks the truth amidst a prejudiced and patriarchal community, she must navigate the complexities of a sparse early justice system and decide where her loyalties lie.

February ~ Crow Lake

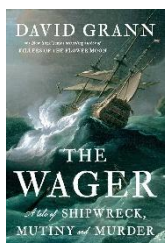
by Mary Lawson

The Morrison siblings have been haunted by tragedy since the sudden death of their parents in an accident when they were young. Kate found an escape from the legacy of their dark past in her passion for the natural world.



March ~ The Wager

by David Grann

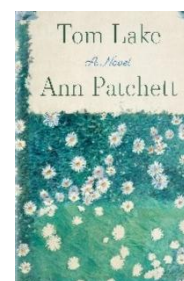


A rousing story of a maritime scandal...Drawing on a trove of firsthand accounts—logbooks, correspondence, diaries, court-martial testimony, and Admiralty and government records—Grann mounts a chilling, vibrant narrative...recounting the tumultuous events in tense detail...A brisk, absorbing history and a no-brainer for fans of the author's suspenseful historical thrillers.

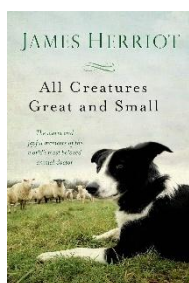
April ~ Tom Lake

by Ann Patchett

Ann Patchett's novel Tom Lake is about a mother, Lara, who tells her three daughters the story of a youthful romance and acting career at a summer theater company called Tom Lake, all while during a pandemic cherry harvest on their Michigan orchard. The novel, narrated by Lara, intertwines the present-day story with memories of her passionate past with a famous actor, exploring themes of youthful love, marriage, family dynamics, and the choices that shape a life



PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB



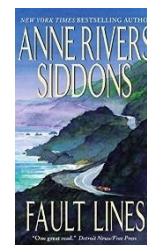
May ~ All Creatures Great and Small

by James Herriot

James Herriot is a young vet fresh out of school and eager to find his place in the world. He answers an ad for a veterinary assistant in the Yorkshire Dales, and consequently does become part of a different world—a place full of memorable character.

June ~ Fault Lines

by Ann Rivers Siddons

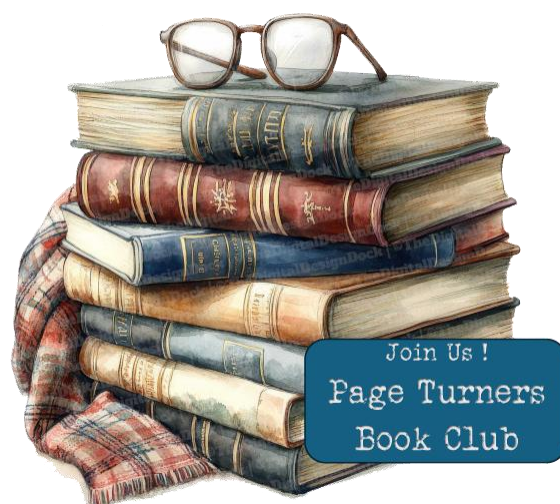


When her daughter runs away to her aunt in California, Merritt Fowler of Georgia takes a plane to bring her back, the trip a welcome change from a demanding husband and an equally demanding mother-in-law who is suffering from Alzheimer's. The scene is set for a steamy romance during an earthquake.

The Washougal United Methodist Church Book Club, **Page Turners**, 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 the Club. Why? Because it's a wonderful way to establish a sense of community with other readers, discussing the wider themes and character arcs of a story can give you a new perspective on reading and actually allows you to gain more out of books than you did before. And if that's not enough to convince you, here are seven (7) more reasons to contemplate:

1. It forces you to actually read
2. You can make new friends — not just the fictional ones, either
3. It gives you a different perspective
4. It broadens your horizons
5. It Improves your own writing skills
6. They usually involve snacks
7. It gives you a break amidst the madness of life



Join Us !
Page Turners
Book Club

JOY ~ JUST OLDER YOUTH



Old Folks Texting Codes Deciphered

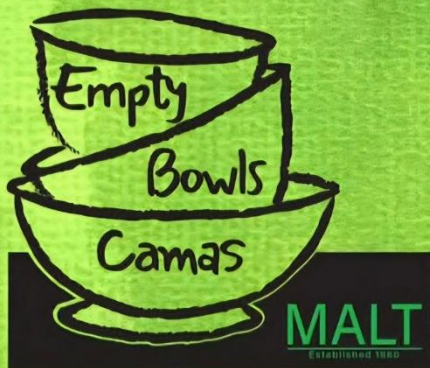


Last minute entry from Gene Cox
TMB: Too Many Birthdays

ATD	At The Doctor's
BFF	Best Friend Fell
BTW	Bring The Wheelchair
CBM	Covered By Medicare
CUATSC	See You At The Senior Center
FWIW	Forgot Where I Was
FYI	Found Your Insulin
GGLKI	Gotta Go, Laxative Kickin' In
GGPBL	Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low
GHA	Got Heartburn Again
HOG	Hot Old Guy
IMHO	I Must Have Osteoporosis
IMHO	Is My Hearing Aid On
LOL	Little Old Lady
LOL	Living On Lipitor
LWO	Lawrence Welk's On
OMG	Oh My Gout
TMI	Triggers My Indigestion
TTYL	Talk To You Louder
WAITT	Who Am I Talking To

EMPTY BOWLS & TREASURE HOUSE

Empty Bowls Camas



Sept. 16, 2025

5:30-7:30PM

Black Pearl on the Columbia
Event Center

Benefiting Inter-Faith Treasure House

Guests sample soups from 10 local restaurants and choose a handmade bowl to take home as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world due to hunger.

Proceeds benefit the Food Pantry at our very own
INTERFAITH TREASURE HOUSE
to reduce food insecurity locally in Camas and Washougal.

General Admission \$30
Grants entry to the event to sample soups and choose a
handmade bowl.

www.emptybowlscamas.org

FALL CONCERT

Our WUMC Worship Chairperson, Kathy McKinley (pictured below) cordially invites you to attend the Lutheran Choral Association 2025 Fall Concert Series.



A 60-voice choir singing old and new sacred music

PRESENTS

2025 FALL CONCERT SERIES

*Sue Thompson Armentrout - Director
Karl Jurisons - Pianist*

Sunday, September 14 - 4pm
Immanuel Lutheran Church
7810 SE 15th Avenue, Portland

Sunday, September 21 - 4pm
RISE Church
10445 SW Canterbury Lane, Tigard

Sunday, September 28 - 4pm
Gethsemane Lutheran Church
11560 SE Market Street, Portland

Sunday, October 5 - 4pm
Peace Lutheran Church
2201 N Rosa Parks Way, Portland
Free will offering to support a new boiler for the church



No Charge for Admission
Free Will Offering



SEPTEMBER



CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	CLOSED 1	2	3	4	5	6
	 Joe Wittler BD	Paul & Cathy Morton- Greenlee Anniversary				Kathy McKinley BD
Grands' Day 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Holy Communion Musical Guest Lasana Worship 10 Coffee Hour	Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 Cleta's					
14	15	Citizenship Day 16	17	18	19	20
Worship 10 Pastor TOM TUCKER Coffee Hour 11	Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 Cleta's	Page Turners Noon Leonardo's Pizzeria		Council - 3		Jean Leavitt BD
21	Autumn's Here! 22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship 10 POTLUCK SUNDAY	Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 Cleta's		Mark Guz BD Bill & Debbie Revett Anniversary			
28	29	30				
Worship 10 Coffee Hour	Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 - Cleta's	Sharry Monroe BD				

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ~ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

LABOR DAY ~ SEPTEMBER 1

VETERANS DAY ~ NOVEMBER 11

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY ~ NOVEMBER 26-28

CHRISTMAS/WINTER BREAK ~ DECEMBER 22 ~ JANUARY 2, 2026