

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, October 5th
Holly Daze Workshop,
Susanna Wesley Room, 9 am
(see details below)**

**Saturday, October 5th
Prayer Shawl Group, 9 am
Church Narthex
(see details below)**

**Sunday, October 6th
Sunday Live Worship, 10 am, Sanctuary
<https://www.youtube.com/user/PiratesoftheColumbia>
(Click the "LIVE" link in the tool bar to see recent
worship services, as well)**

**Sunday, October 6th
Fair Trade Coffee/Chocolates will be sold during Coffee
Hour
Please have exact change or check**

**Tuesday, October 8th
Pat Walker's Memorial Service, 1 pm
With Reception following in Ida Payne**

**Sunday, October 13th
UMY Family Fall Festival, 4-6 pm**

**Saturday, October 19th
Holly Daze Bazaar, 9 am – 3 pm**

**Sunday, October 27th
Tailgate Trunk or Treat, 4:30 – 6 pm, Parking Lot**

Sunday, November 24th
All-Church Potluck, 11 am, Ida Payne

Sunday, November 24th
All-Church Conference, 12:30 pm, Youth Chapel

Friday News 10/4

Dear Friends,

For the last two weeks, and the next two, I have the pleasure of driving to Spokane and back on Thursdays. It is a pleasure, even though it requires an earlier wake-up than usual and gobbles up 4.5 hours of my full week. The class I am taking is good, the people I am with are good, but this drive is also a pleasure because I continue to explore this new and beautiful area in which I now live, the landscape, the people, and the cultural variations that make this place special.

Something I have noticed during my drives are the green tinted fields of sprouting winter wheat. They are a beautiful addition to the patchwork of fields with the leftover stripes from mowing, the acres left uncultivated and natural, and the areas filled with cattle and homes and other things.

Those green fields are different from signs of fall in every other place I have lived. In my experience, while full of ripening pumpkins and fall harvest joys, most of what is seen are signs of death and dying in our gardens and along the roadsides. Many plants and trees prepare for a

dormant season. And we prepare for the shorter number of daylight hours and cooler temperatures.

If we were not excited about Halloween and the following holidays, we might all descend into the sadness of grief. Many of us remind ourselves that this period of dying and dormancy are preludes and preparation for spring when things will begin to grow again. With faith, we trust that God will once again bring the season of growth to us.

The sprouting fields of winter wheat that I see on my drive feel like a gift from God, an early sign that spring will really come. That has been a delight for me! I love winter, and I never doubt spring will arrive in due time, but the green fields feel like a gift from God in advance! Our scriptures were written in a land with similar climate to ours. Here are what two of the Hebrew Testament prophets said:

- "Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth". (Hosea 6:3)
- "Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone". (Zechariah 10:1)

So, let us acknowledge the Lord. Let us give thanks to God for pumpkin vines and other annual plants who have lived their full lives, and who gift us with parting gifts like pumpkins. Let us give thanks to God for perennial plants, like apple trees, who have worked hard for the season and

now prepare for rest after gifting us with their harvest. And let us give thanks to God for the fresh planted flower bulbs and seed wheat that will remind us in this quiet and dark season of the life waiting to burst forth from and for each of us.

May you find delight in the preparations earth makes for winter. May you joyfully anticipate the springtime. Between now and then, may you know the fullness of God's presence and life fully with it.

Pastor Shirley

PS: I have been reading about pre-harvest sprouting in winter wheat and realize the green I am seeing may not actually be a good thing. Let us talk another time about when good-looking things are actually bad news.

10/6
Come to the Table
"Table of Joy"

Scriptures:
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT OFFICE
WITH ATTACHED "DANCING OUR PRAYERS" FLYER

Dear Pastors and Lay Leaders,
Last spring, we were disappointed that the **Dancing Our Prayers** group from the Yakama Nation had to cancel their visit to our area. We were able to reschedule, and their visit is approaching soon. Their Spokane and Coeur d'Alene performances will be on November 2 and 3.

Attached is a flyer with specific information about their group and the events. These events work toward our GNW PNW goal of eliminating racism.

The event in Spokane will be held at Covenant UMC in their gym on Saturday, November 2, at 4 p.m. We hope churches in the greater Spokane area will come together for this unique opportunity to learn about Native American culture and justice issues. Coeur d'Alene Community UMC will host the group for Sunday worship on November 3 at 10 a.m. Please post this flyer not only in your church but also on other community bulletin boards. We would like these to be community events.

We are responsible for the costs of their travel from Yakima (as well as meals and homestays), so we would like to ask for the support of our churches. Individuals may donate at each event; if your church is willing to contribute to help with this cost, please reach out to me at smiranda@onwumc.org. Donations at any level would be greatly appreciated.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Sheila Miranda
Associate for Connectional Ministries,
Inland and Seven Rivers Districts of PNWUMC

Files:

[dancingourprayersflyer.nov2024.pdf](#)

Pumpkin Wagon/Candy Wheelbarrow

There is a wagon in the entry way for anyone to place pumpkins they want to donate to the Fall Family Festival. There is also a wheelbarrow in the entryway for candy donations for Trunk or Treat. The Children and Youth Ministries appreciate your support as we support our families and the community.

Please Donate Pumpkins

The youth are looking for pumpkins for the Fall Festival. If you have some to donate, there is a red wagon in the entry way where you can place them. Thank you!

Prayer Shawl Group

The Prayer Shawl Group is now meeting **every first Saturday of the month in the Narthex between 9 am – 12 pm.** The next one will be on **Saturday, October 5th.** All knitters and crocheters are welcome! If you have any questions, please call Janet Shelton at 503-703-8388.

Holly Daze Workshop

The Holly Daze Bazaar is only two weeks away on **Saturday, October 19th.** We need your help with the following: pumpkins and succulents for pumpkin centerpieces, and late garden produce, such as winter squash, potatoes, and sometimes tomatoes, and apples for the farm store. The bake shop will also be requesting donated baked goods closer to the time of the bazaar. Thank you so much for the support you give this fundraising endeavor for United Women of Faith (formerly UMW.) If you are making donations, please leave in SWR (with a note – Holly Daze) or bring to the church office.

KFUMC Library

Did you hear the bray? There is a burro helping out the KFUMC library. We have a new program to help you work on your quiet moment with God in our Biblio-burro program! Utilize our library and get books for pick-up or delivery. Find out more at:

[https://www.kennewickfirst.com/ministries/education/.](https://www.kennewickfirst.com/ministries/education/)

Church Office Staff Meetings

The Church Office meets for a Staff Meeting the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 10 am - Noon. The office is closed
10 am - 1:00 pm on those days.