

# THE CIRCUIT RIDER

Social Distancing Edition Vol. 5

Snoqualmie United Methodist Church

January/February 2021

## SAVE THE DATES

January 6 – Epiphany

Tuesdays, starting January 12, 6:30-8 pm – Learning Circle

February 17, 7 pm – Ash Wednesday service

February 20, 4 pm – Talent Show



## THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7). That cradle communicates! Christ in a

feeding trough, offered to all who hunger and thirst, meant to be received and metabolized. What intimate abiding. Communion from the manger leaves us incarnating the incarnation. Seems to me we're ready for the *Work of Christmas*.

### The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart. - Howard Thurman

May we know *God with us* and all as we pick up this work in the new year. Our calling is not to get back to normal, but to move forward toward the kingdom of God.

Fed together in community,

Pastor Lee



## WORSHIP FORECAST

Sundays 10:30 am on Zoom, Meeting ID 801896850  
Or click on the home page of our website, [www.snoqualmieumc.org](http://www.snoqualmieumc.org)

**Need help with Zoom? No problem. Call Greg (425-246-4384) or Toddie Downs (425-208-1470)**

**January 3 - Celebrate Epiphany! Communion.** Music with Michelle Wilkinson. Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12.

**January 10 - Baptism of the Lord. Follow Me series begins: Tear Open the Heavens.** Music with Michelle Wilkinson. Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11.

**January 17 - Follow Me: Anything Good.** Music with Toddie Downs. 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51. (January 18 is Martin Luther King Day.)

**January 24 - Follow Me!** Music with Michelle Wilkinson. Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20.

**January 31 - Follow Me: What Have You to Do with Us?** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28.

**February 07 - Follow Me: She Began to Serve.** *Black History Month.* Communion Sunday. Music with Michelle Wilkinson. Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39.

**February 14 - Follow Me: But Only Jesus.** Transfiguration Sunday. 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9.

**February 17 - Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm. Lent Begins.** Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21.

**February 21** - First Sunday of Lent, music with **Toddie Downs**. Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15. (Lenten series TBA)

**February 28** - Second Sunday of Lent, music with Michelle Wilkinson. Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38. (Lenten series TBA)

**Thanks to our creative and thoughtful Worship Committee: Betty Gildersleeve, Jacque Lindstrand, Marcia Reinert (chair), Ron Sumners, and Richard Whetsell.** Thanks to **Shelley Huestis** for coordinating Sunday readers and liturgists. Call or text Shelley (425-283-6007) if you want to read scripture, guide the service, or offer special music!

- For worship updates and occasional revisions  
please visit the worship page on our website: [www.snoqualmieumc.org](http://www.snoqualmieumc.org) . –

## THIS IS US – BIRTHDAY MILESTONE EDITION

In this special edition of This is Us, we want to highlight a member with a birthday milestone. Our own Pat Cokewell turns 90 years young on January 21.



Pat spent her childhood on a farm in North Carolina, one of 6 children. She remembers gardening and canning and working in the fields. She played basketball in high school, and her team won the state tournament.

Several years after she married, she and her family moved first to Florida, then out here to the Pacific Northwest in 1968. She's been a member of Snoqualmie United Methodist Church since about 1973. She recalls, "I missed Sundays a lot because I was working at the Mar-T Cafe. When the family that owned it sold it, I was head waitress, and they wanted me to buy it. By then I was divorced and single and had no money to buy it. One of the sisters loaned me the money to buy it. I never ran a business before, but I had it for 20 years."

Pat was single for five years, then met her to-be husband Bob Cokewell; she remembers that he proposed to her on the phone on Valentine's Day. She has fond memories of their wedding at SUMC, where all her six children were able to be in attendance. A busy and exciting period came in the *Twin Peaks* years, in which the Mar-T featured prominently. Aside from being interviewed from places all around the world, she recalls having to make and sell an astounding amount of pie. "People were waiting in line for a piece of pie on Sundays. I had one pie maker, she was 75, and another lady could make pies – I ended up with 4 piemakers, 2 in the morning and 2 in the afternoon. I mailed one pie to a dentist in Kentucky – he mailed me a picture of him eating it. We sent 12 pies to a designer in New York – they didn't travel well."

Pat also stayed busy volunteering in the church and assuming leadership roles in the Chamber of Commerce and women's business organizations. When she sold the Mar-T Café, she transitioned to cooking meals for classes at the Fire Training Center. Every class there lasted 12 weeks, and could range to having up to 53 students. She enjoyed that challenge so much she continued there until she was almost 80, at which point she still didn't want to retire, so drove for Senior Services until health problems forced her to stop. She says she misses just being able to get in the car and drive.

Pat remains a blessing to her 6 kids, 18 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Asked if she has any life advice to give, she responded: When I was 10, I didn't have a bike, but I was determined I was going to learn to ride my brother's bike. I'd push the bike up and ride it down. There was sand in the road, and it would throw me. But I'd get back on and keep doing it. My mother said she'd never seen anyone with so much perseverance. In hard times you just keep going and stay positive."

**To send birthday wishes to Pat, you can either:**

- Send a card to her at PO Box 572, North Bend WA 98045, or
- Send her birthday greetings on Facebook under Pat Brummitt Cokewell (not yet set up her daughter Nancy is getting it set up soon)



*What good is it to me that Mary gave birth to the son of God fourteen hundred years ago, and I do not also give birth to the Son of God in my time and in my culture? We are all meant to be mothers of God. God is always needing to be born. -*

***Meister Eckhart***

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**



## ***More Blessed***

*I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing.*

- Genesis 12:1-2

Twenty five households responded to our More Blessed stewardship campaign for 2021. **Thank you!** Those who expressed interest in a new ministry area will hear more about that soon. Twenty three households pledged financially, for a current total of \$60, 526. We hope to approve a 2021 budget at the next Lead Team meeting, January 16th. Again, thank you!

## HOME BLESSING WITH EPIPHANY

Here is a liturgy for chalking the main doorway of your home this new year. Modify to suit your setting! Traditionally done on Epiphany (January 6), remembering the occasion of the magi visiting the holy family's home.

**All: Peace be to this home and to all who live, work, and visit here.**

One: The three wise men came to Bethlehem in search of the Lord. They brought him precious gifts: gold for the newborn king, incense for the true God in human form, and myrrh to anoint his body, which one day would suffer and die like our own.

Pray: O God, you used a star to show all the world that Jesus is your Son. May the light of that star that once guided wise men to honor his birth, now guide us to recognize him also, to know you by faith, and to see you in the epiphanies of our daily life experiences.

**All: Be enlightened and shine forth, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ born of Mary shines upon you.**

One: Light of the World, bless this home and this household/family. May this be a place of peace and health. Guide us to cultivate the gifts and graces you have bestowed, dedicating our talents and works for the good of all. Make this place a shelter in the storm and a haven of rest for all in need of your warmth and care. And when we go out from here, may we never lose sight of that Epiphany star. Keep us in its light and in your love.



*The initials of the Magi's legendary names - Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar - are written with chalk on or over the main doors, framed by the numbers of the New Year (2021) like this:*

**20 + C + M + B + 21**

*Perhaps better yet, those initials may stand for *Christe, Mansionem Benedica**

*which means Christ, bless this house.*

May all who come and go here find peace, comfort, joy, hope, love, and salvation, for Christ has come to dwell in this house and in these hearts.

**All: May we be Christ's light in the world. Amen.**



## SNOQUALMIE'S GOT TALENT

Let your light shine! Inviting all comedy, music, magic, dance, drama, pet tricks, art etcetera for the **tentative date of Saturday February 20th, 4 pm**. Date confirmation and sign-up instructions coming soon. Plan your act now!

## SNOQUALMIE VALLEY WINTER SHELTER UPDATE



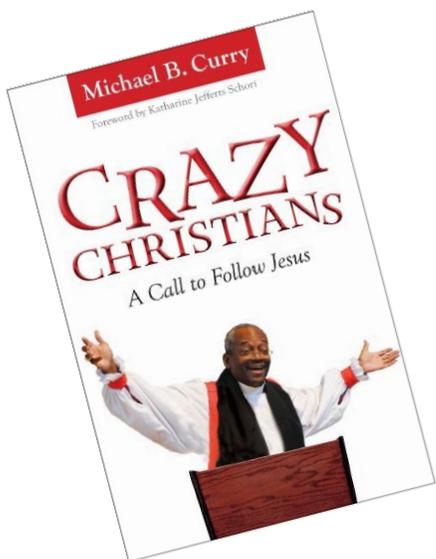
The **Snoqualmie Valley Winter Shelter** is enjoying a smooth season so far. Shelter staff report having plenty of provisions thanks to those who've been supplying meals, holiday gifts, and other practical items. The shelter has been at about capacity lately, with 12 people in residence tonight (New Year's Eve). Please keep the shelter community and staff in your prayers. Thank you SUMC for your supportive hospitality! Folks in need of

shelter services should call or text 425-773-2874. For information about how to further support Snoqualmie Valley Shelter Services, visit their website: [svshelterservices.org](http://svshelterservices.org). The shelter plans to transition from Snoqualmie UMC on February 18.



## LEARNING CIRCLE UPDATE

Our weekly Learning Circle is moving to **TUESDAYS, 6:30 - 8 pm**, starting **January 12th**. Join us in reading **Crazy Christians** by Bishop Michael Curry, and see what happens! Thanks to Jacque Lindstrand for facilitating this vibrant group. Newcomers welcome, and this is a great time to jump in!



## NEWS OF THE CHURCH



**Craig Hauser** and company (Si View Window Cleaning and Exterior Maintenance) renewed our Christmas glow this year, installing white lights on the steeple and along the gutter lines. Thanks to our Memorial Fund and widespread enthusiasm for pulling this off. Photo courtesy of Glynis Rogers.

*Photo courtesy of Wendy Holloway*



Dave Battey reports on Gloria McNeely. He writes:

She is doing very well, but is isolated and bored and her email does not work. She hopes her nephew, who recently installed a new computer for her, will be allowed in to Spiritwood to fix it.

I asked her about the Covid vaccine at her assisted living in Issaquah and she shared what she felt was very encouraging news.

Gloria is scheduled for her Covid-19 vaccinations on January 11<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. This means that she will be fully vaccinated by her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

For those who are not aware, her room number has recently changed and she is best reached on her cellphone rather than her regular phone. [Her cell phone number is in the church directory]

Her address is:

Gloria McNeely  
Spiritwood At Pine Lake – Room 319  
3607 228th Ave SE, Issaquah, WA 980



## COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

If you have any suggestions or ideas for me for future issues, please let me know!

Thanks, Toddie Downs (toddiedowns@yahoo.com)

### Contact Us

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