

THE CIRCUIT RIDER

Snoqualmie United Methodist Church

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022

SAVE THE DATES

Mondays, beginning
September 12, 2 pm – Color
Theology

Thursday, September 15,
11:00am-12:30, Reclaiming
Stability Benefit Luncheon

Wednesdays, beginning
October 5, 2 pm – Prayer
Group

PASTOR'S NOTE

Friends,

I've been thinking...
what would happen
or change within our

congregation community if we all committed to participating in small group Bible studies with one another? Why am I thinking about this lately? It's not just because I'm a Pastor and I want everyone to eagerly join a Bible study. I've been thinking about my seminary experience and what it was like to be with a community of believers from all different denominations reading the Bible and discussing it with one another. Personally, it was soul affirming. Growing up I never participated in a group Bible study. I've read the Bible and I know the stories really well, but I had never studied the Bible. I was immensely intimidated by my classmates because they had large passages memorized whereas I did not. I didn't want my classmates or professors to know that I didn't have any of the Bible memorized. What I learned though, is that while

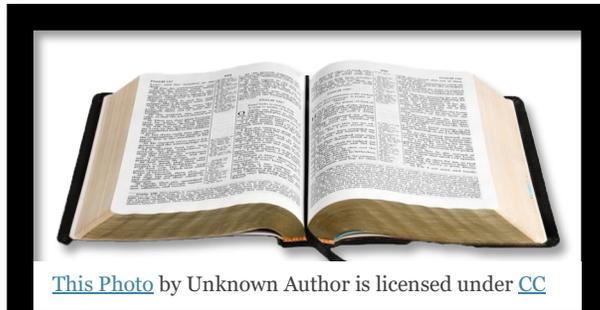
they had memorized passages, they struggled to understand what those passages meant, while I felt confident understanding the deeper meaning. As we studied together, we learned from one another. Where I felt weak, they strengthened me and where they felt weak, I strengthened them. This realization caused me to wonder if this is why Jesus said, "where two or more are gathered, I am there also." It is through and with Jesus we best understand scripture. It is how we grow in our faith. Here's my challenge for our congregation – let's take this next year to learn together. Let's all participate in a Bible study with a small group.

If you are willing to facilitate a group either with a partner or on your own, message me. It can be a beginning Bible study, a deeper look into a topic found throughout the Bible, a study on Christian values, or deeper examination of a particular book. Together we can offer a variety of studies that everyone can participate in.

If you want to participate in a small group study but not facilitate and have a suggestion message me your suggestions. Maybe someone will facilitate it for you.

Blessings,

Pastor Carrie Bland



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SPEAK FOR YOURSELF

Question of the Day: What was the prayer that God answered when you came to Snoqualmie UMC?

Pat Warner - My kids moved me here when I lost my husband. I had just moved here, and I prayed, "LORD, let me fit in." I decided to go to the early service, and loved the music, which is important to me.

Wendy Holloway - I was on the rebound from a big, flashy church culture, and I wanted a liturgical church that celebrated Christmas and Easter. This church felt like home.

Rachel Combs - I was 7 days old. It feels like home.

Toddie Downs - I wanted to find a church family because we had no family in the area. Happened right away!

Carol Lawrence - Find a husband. (Joke) When I first attended, only one person spoke to me and the church was full. I came back two years later because I wanted a church family to raise my child. Others in his age group were Rachel Combs and Cristen Heuser.

Freda Monroe - Wasn't my prayer but my mother's. She prayed for me to find a God-centered church to keep me Christ-focused with loving support and encouragement.

Gary Daubert - I was born here. Carol Lawrence was my Sunday school teacher.

Sandy Simms - I wanted a small town atmosphere and a church that had been established for years.

Jacque Lindstrom - I needed a Methodist Church in the neighborhood with small groups that was inclusive and diverse with outreach to our neighborhood.

Joanne Royston - Friendship

Dawn Finney - I found a spiritual home when I found SUMC almost 15 years ago. I found inclusion, acceptance of my Christian beliefs, support for my spiritual vision for myself and my family, and a path to living my Christian faith. My prayers for having a community where I can ask challenging questions and where I can be my genuine self were answered.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



Color Theology

Beginning Monday, September 12, 2022, at 2 pm join Pastor Carrie and others for 1.5 hours of coloring and bible lessons. Color Theology incorporates listening to scripture and coloring that allows a person to express their prayers through creativity. You do not have to be a professional artist, simply willing to see what might happen.

Prayer Group

Beginning Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at 2 pm you are encouraged to participate in a prayer group. We will lift up our own prayers and the prayers of the congregation during this time. If you would like to strengthen your prayer practices, please come join in with us. Come as often as you are able to.



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FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Linda Trombley provides a current list of the items most needed at the Food Bank right now:

Food Items Most Needed

Canned Foods:

- Vegetables (NO green beans, corn, beans, diced tomatoes please)
- Tomato sauce
- Meal in a can
- Soups (NO mushroom soup please)
- Pineapple
- Chili
- Almond butter
- Jam & Jelly
- Tuna

Dried Goods:

- Boxed Side Dishes
- Spaghetti noodles (no elbows please)
- Ramen & Cup Noodles
- Granola bars
- Baking Items (flour, sugar, chocolate chips, cinnamon, cake mixes, ...)
- Spices
- Condiments
- Coffee & Tea



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WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

The ministry of Greeters is a vital part of making everyone feel welcome and wanted. Richard Whetsell schedules Greeters each week. He works from a list of people who have indicated they can come a little early and Greet others. If you can be at the church by 9:15 AM and smile, you can be a Greeter too. Just let Richard know you like to Greet? Call him at 918-978-3143 or email to Richard.whetsell@gmail.com. Thanks for making SUMC a welcoming place

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Reclaiming Stability
Benefit Luncheon • Meadowbrook Farm

Thursday, September 15, 2022 • 11:00am-12:30pm

SNOQUALMIE VALLEY SHELTER SERVICES

Join us for our 2022 Reclaiming Stability Benefit Luncheon. Thursday, September 15th • 11:00am – 12:30pm. We are thrilled to gather with you in-person to celebrate 10 years of providing services to the men, women, and families experiencing homelessness in the Snoqualmie Valley! Reclaiming Stability is our largest fundraiser of the year, where we aim to raise the critical funds needed to continue

our mission of providing life-changing services to those who are experiencing homelessness in our community. Funds raised will support our much-needed programs and services, and will directly benefit the growing number of individuals living unhoused in the Snoqualmie Valley. Will you join us to help reach our goal?

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

First communion with Pastor Carrie

Photos by Karolann Whetsell



Family Fun Night



A LITTLE HISTORY

Courtesy of Dave Battey, the following article is from *Centennial History of the Snoqualmie United Methodist Church* (Dave Battey, edited by Gloria McNeely):

The Whole Story

Snoqualmie Days (formerly known as Snoqualmie Railroad Days) is an annual festival that celebrates all things “Snoqualmie,” but the original Snoqualmie Days celebrated a specific and important event – the arrival of the town’s first fire truck.



Before the fire truck, fires were suppressed by using two hose carts operated by volunteers. When a fire was detected, a volunteer would run to the fire siren (still heard downtown each day at noon) to summon help. The first volunteer to arrive would grab a hose cart and run to the fire. Despite best efforts, volunteer firefighter and later fire chief Martin Fringer recalled that even an “average fire meant a completely burned building.”

By the 1930s, efforts to establish an official fire district and raise funds for a community fire truck were underway. In March of 1939, voters passed a \$5000 bonds measure for the purchase of new firefighting equipment.

“The Church is on fire!”

Before the new truck arrived, however, disaster struck. In the early afternoon of May 10, a fire started in the downtown church woodshed. The origin of the fire has never been determined. However, a group of boys seen running from the woodshed as the fire quickly spread caused speculation.

Volunteer firefighters and community members immediately jumped into action. Margaret Hackney rushed into the burning building to save the hymnals within. Her husband, volunteer firefighter Frank Hackney, arrived with the hose cart. The “water pressure...was not strong enough to break the windows to get water in the church” he recalled, “We had to use rocks.” Despite being dressed in a “nice new grey suit with a grey fedora hat,” Charlie McGarrigle, an ex-firefighter from Renton and manager of Puget Power, also ran towards the fire. According to Frank, Charlie “grabbed the [hose] nozzle and...went so fast I tripped on the step, and the only thing that kept me up was hanging on to hose.”

Lorna Jean (Wallace) Young was in second grade arithmetic class when the fire started. Hearing shouts from other students, she looked out her window and saw “smoke billowing up over town.” Her teacher, Miss Peggy McKay, insisted students return to their desks and work for the remaining ten minutes until lunch recess.

Five volunteer firemen of the Snoqualmie fire department narrowly missed death when a 400-pound church bell plunged down from the burning steeple – barely five feet from the firemen.” – Snoqualmie Valley Record, May 11, 1939

As Young fled home, she was “stopped dead in her tracks,” horrified at what she was witnessing. As she gathered herself, she heard yelling come from inside the church. “Then, I saw the men run out just a fraction of a second before the [church] bell came crashing down.” The bell was so hot, it was said, that it sizzled in the water that was collecting on the church floor.

Despite the damage, the church structure was saved and rebuilt six months later. And the old bell that came crashing down was re-installed in a new steeple.



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

Snoqualmie United Methodist Church

38701 SE River St.
Snoqualmie WA 98065
425-888-1697
pastor@snoqualmieumc.com
www.snoqualmieumc.com

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38701 SE River St.
Snoqualmie WA 98065