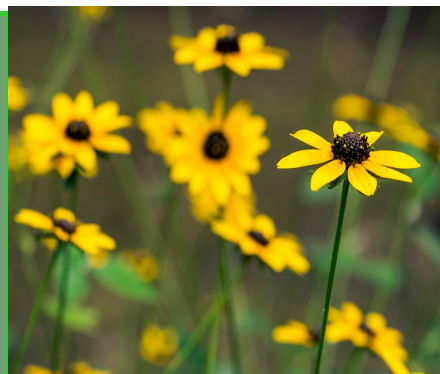


# THE WORD

*Experiencing, Growing In & Sharing God's Love*

Goldendale United Methodist Church

September 2021



## WELCOMING OUR NEW DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

We are excited to welcome our new District Superintendent Rev. Daniel Miranda to Goldendale on Sunday, September 19th. In July he took on the role of overseeing both the Inland and the Seven River's District - namely the whole eastern side of our Annual Conference. His wife Rev. Sheila Miranda is now an Assistant for Connectional Ministries. Having her in Spokane helps us connect with the office of our annual conference with the perspective of living in Eastern Washington. Please join us for worship to welcome them to our church. Pastor Joyce will be on vacation and our Lay Leader, Larry Gourley, will lead in worship that Sunday. Plan to be here!

## SOUP KITCHEN CHANGES

We have been blessed to have Mara Lewis head up our Soup Kitchen. She has helped us through the difficulty of the time of COVID. She will be taking up the job of kindergarten teacher in Walla Walla. A group of those who keep the kitchen running will be meeting to work on new leadership.

Behind the scenes Pat and Kevin Hamilton, Candy Hack and Connie Pond (and others) work hard to keep food in the fridge and freezer. We thank Mara and wish this wonderful young woman all the best!

## September Calendar

### 2nd & 4th Mondays

Community Meals

T/W/Th Community Meals  
5:30 p.m.

### Sundays

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

### Thursdays

Book Group 9:00 a.m.

*Cancelled until further notice.*

## September 1 5:30 p.m. Church Council



### Worship online

[www.goldendaleumc.org](http://www.goldendaleumc.org)

To share prayer concerns  
call the church 773-4461

Or email  
[gumc12@centurylink.net](mailto:gumc12@centurylink.net)



## Chasing the Wild Goose

Pastor Joyce O'Connor-Magee

Sunday was a blessing following a challenging week. *My Hope is in You Lord* has gotten in my head as I sang it on the way home from church. I also sang it to my dog with my bouncing and clapping - she wasn't impressed.

With September upon us we are waiting to see what happens as schools reopen. Our thoughts and prayers are with students, teachers and staff - first days of school can be difficult. This year maybe more than others.

One of the challenges of the week is finding we do not have a lead teacher for our incredible preschool. Rachele Williams has been looking for a lead teacher with no success. When she proposed to the board of the Preschool that she was creating a new role, as the director not the day to day teacher I knew it would be a hard thing to replace her! Please keep her and the preschool in your thoughts and prayer that a new teacher may appear! Nancy Nickels and Vicki Wollam serve on that board. The School is scheduled to begin in October!

We are also looking for a way to move forward with the loss of our Soup Kitchen coordinator. This has been an incredible volunteer job! During the pandemic our numbers have grown with us serving upwards of 50+ people a night. I am so appreciative of all the helpers but a special thanks to Kevin & Pat Hamilton and Candy Hack. Every week the Hamiltons make sure food and to go containers are available which has not been an easy job this summer. Candy picks up donations from McDonald's every Monday for the use of the cooking teams.

It reminds me of the old quote: *Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.* It is good to know we have mighty prayers and workers!



## Taking Care of God's House

You may have noticed that there have been some changes here at the church. Some are more noticeable than others, but they have all made a difference in how the church looks and how well it functions. Of course, Dr. Ogden and Josh continue to mow our lawn weekly. And we have other members who work in the yard and maintain the beauty of our plants. Ted Bradwell and crew have finished with replacing all the windows in the basement with energy efficient new windows. The refrigerator downstairs has been repaired to fix a leak. Better late than never, there is a new air conditioner in the pastor's office - one for the main office is planned. And we have parking lot lines! Our next big project is to get the church painted. We will get an estimate soon and keep you posted. If you find that you would like to help with these projects financially, just make a note on your donation that it is for "Taking Care of God's House".



Hard to believe that summer is on its way out! We have not met in person since Dr. Ogden was here to show us slides of his mission work. That was an in-person gathering with a catered lunch. Even though we have not been meeting this summer, we have been active. We have kept up our Racial Justice Charter work by doing the following:

1. We watched a video from Deaconess Cinde Andrade from Brownsville, Texas and sent blankets to support her work with migrant children at the border.
2. We have encouraged you all to read books from the Reading Program list having to do with Racial Justice.
3. We have supported the Nome Community Center in Alaska with our gifts and donations.

We have submitted our report for recognition of those who have been reading books from the UMW Reading Program list. If you haven't submitted your report, it's not too late. Just bring them into the church.

We also have submitted the reports to qualify our unit as a Mission Today Chapter. We will go over this report at one of our future meetings.

Considering all of that, you would think we would have felt that was enough. Not so! A highly successful yard sale was next on the list. We collected 'treasures' for nearly two years and finally the sale was held and was a huge success. Thank you to all who worked so hard to help us raise funds for mission.

Well done - let's look forward to the time we can be together again in person!

Lynn Wanless, UMW President



### **Birthdays**

- Sept. 5** Linda Hay
- Sept. 9** Sharon Gangwish
- Sept. 10** Shirlee Case
- Sept. 23** Rachele Williams
- Sept. 27** Mavis House
- Sept. 29** Sandy Bernier



### **Anniversary**

- Sept. 12**  
**Dwayne & Sharon Williams**

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday to Thursday**  
**9am - noon**  
509-773-4461

M/W Lynn Wanless  
T/Th Elsie David  
M-Th Pastor Joyce  
509-389-1406

# Back Packs 4 Kids



The Back Packs 4 Kids program here in Klickitat County is beginning its 12th year of serving children in Klickitat County schools healthy, easy-to-prepare snack foods once a week during the school year. Last year was a challenge for the program, as school schedules were disrupted by COVID. The program continued to find creative ways to get food to children.

For the coming school year the organization will continue to rely on the help of leadership students at Goldendale High School to pack the bags each week and deliver them to the schools. We are currently searching for an organizer at the west end of the county. We continue to enjoy the financial support of United Way of the Columbia Gorge as well as the Columbia Gorge Foundation. Much of our funding comes from generous individuals throughout the area. With a yearly budget of about \$42,000 this support is vital to keep the program running.

Donations can be mailed to Back Packs 4 Kids at 304 Fish Hatchery Road in Goldendale, WA 98620. For more info talk to Lynn Wanless or Tom Magee who serve on the board.



**The Word**  
Goldendale UM Church  
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