

The Circuit Rider

Trinity United Methodist Church

100 N. Blake Ave. / P.O. Box 3697 / Sequim, WA



SEPTEMBER 2026

Volume 34 Number 9

From Pastor Vonda

In my first sermon with you, I talked about dreams. I know that you have a lot of dreams for this church and community. Some may have already been fulfilled; many are still waiting to be achieved. But I also realize we don't often see the fruits of our labor. Even so, we continue to do good work, knowing that what we do now lays the groundwork for what is to come. Even when we fail, God is still working through us.

I have had this plaque for years. It's in storage . . . waiting for me to find it!



Dreams are important. They give us something to strive for, to look toward, and hope for something better. One of my favorite verses in scripture is from Luke 1:37: "Nothing is impossible with God." Truer words. . .

"If you can DREAM it, you can DO it." I have many dreams for the church. I know you have dreams, too. We are never too old to have dreams.

I'm not talking about those weird dreams we have while we are sleeping, but the dreams we strive towards. Those dreams we experience while sleeping are important too.

They help us store memories and work out complicated problems. But it's the dreams for our lives, the church, the hope we have for the future, that I want us to focus on.

I know you are all getting used to my idiosyncrasies. Some of you may still be trying to figure me out. Just remember, what you see is what you get!

I have always considered Peter to be my favorite disciple. He was always asking questions, sometimes not quite understanding what Jesus was trying to teach. But he was also the rock Jesus built the church on. *You* are the Peters of the church that we continue to build on what God has placed in your hearts for our church home. Pastors come and go. But, each one of you, day in and day out, is what keeps the lights on, the ministries moving forward, and the lives being touched. Don't take yourselves for granted. Each and every one of you matters to God, the church, and to me.

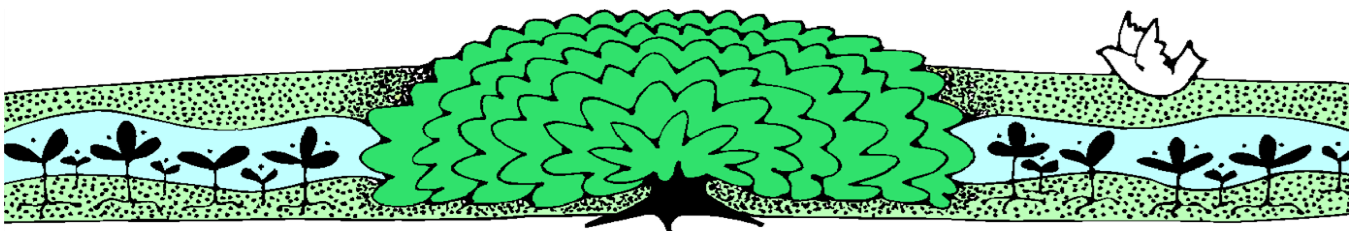
Sometimes our dreams might be crushed and sometimes all will work according to plan. No matter what happens, never stop dreaming of a better future . . . for our church, our community, and the world.

So, friends, never stop dreaming! "If you can DREAM it, you can DO it." I will always be your biggest cheerleader.

DREAM BIG!

I'll look for you in church!

Pastor Vonda



Methodism 101 and Potluck

Have you wondered what Methodism is all about? Have you ever wondered what we believe about baptisms, what sacraments are observed, or even what a sacrament is? Ever heard of the *Book of Discipline*? These questions and more will be answered on September 13 after worship in the Fellowship Hall. We will gather for a potluck to fill our stomachs with good food and then, for those who wish to learn more or become a member of the church, will gather to talk about the United Methodist Church. All are welcome to attend, member or not, desire to join or not. Please speak with Pastor Vonda if you have questions.



Coming Soon!

Handbells are returning to Trinity. Tom McFadden will lead a handbell group this Fall. Tom and Pastor Vonda will perform a handbell duet of "For the Beauty of the Earth" on September 6. If you're interested in joining the group, please speak with Tom after worship or let the church office know you are interested.

Trunk or Treat

Do you like to dress up for Halloween? Do you like to hand out candy? Would you like to join others at the church on October 31 to do both? Then we have a place for you. We want to provide a safe place for kids to come and receive candy and let them know we want to be a part of their lives. If you don't like to dress up, just come and open your trunk. If you don't feel you can participate by being at the church, you can bring candy to help us have enough. We'll have more information in the October newsletter but feel free to reach out if you have any questions.



Join the Choir!

All vocal levels welcome — just a simple audition to keep us on key. We ask for consistent commitment, so worship has steady musical leadership, but you're welcome whether you're in for a season or for the long haul. Rehearsals: Sundays 9:00–9:20am before worship and Wednesdays 4:00–5:30pm beginning September 2. Questions? Contact Betsy Noland, Music Coordinator, at bdavisnoland@gmail.com or Jerry Wright, Choir Director, at maestro@olympus.net.



Love One Another Sermon Series

We will begin a 5-week sermon series from September 27 through October 25 called "Love One Another." "Love is not an idea, love is action." Jesus gathered with those around a table who would betray him. He was always gathering those who disagreed with him or felt threatened by him. And yet, at the Last Supper, he told his disciples to "love one another as I have loved you." Throughout his ministry, he modeled this love for others. We are called to do the same.

Week 1 - "Love One Another"

Week 2 - "Show Us"

Week 3 - "Abide in Love"

Week 4 - "You are My Friends"

Week 5 - "Grieving to Rejoicing"



Representatives from the Sequim Boys and Girls Club at the "Stuff the Bus" event pictured with donations from TUMC

Back to School Supply Collection Re-Cap

The Back-to-School Supply Collection was a HUGE SUCCESS! Thanks to the wonderful generosity of TUMC, Pastor Vonda and I were able to deliver three large boxes and ten grocery bags full of supplies to the "Stuff the Bus" event at Walmart. These items (and much more not listed) included: 9 backpacks, 48 spiral notebooks, 27 boxes of crayons, 13 binders, 20 boxes of pencils, 18 boxes of markers and 52 pink gum erasers! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You to those who so generously supported our Sequim students.

Joyce Langenbacher, Missions Team

A Message from Our Safety Team

Greetings Church Family,

Our Safety Team is seeking additional members.

Jim Stoffer, the Team Lead has surgery in September and will be on medical leave, plus we could use some additional Team members.

Scope of work:

1. The ability to Ring the Church Bell twice on Sundays.
2. Unlock the main entry way doors.
3. Monitoring the Admin, Education Wing doors, and the Choir Room doors.
4. Know where all the light switches are; especially the Cross Light and Rose Window Light.

5. Assist the Ushers and Greeters, and other tasks assigned by the Worship Committee.
6. Welcome and greet visitors.
7. Occasionally taking a stroll outside, monitoring the Parking Lots for slips and falls; and the occasional car trunk left open.
8. Thermostat control, including opening exterior doors for added ventilation on those hot days.
9. Ability to enter a 4-digit code on the Alarm Panel to turn off and on our alarm system for the Fire Alarm & Intruder systems.
10. Coffee and Cookie taster for quality control.
11. Be willing to take a once-a-month shift, approximately 3 hours, 9 to noon on a Sunday.
12. Training is provided.

If the spirit calls you, or you feel the nudge from God, contact Jim at [360.775.9356](tel:360.775.9356) jamesstoffer@wavecable.com or Safety@sequimtumc.org to learn more."

Blessings! Jim, Safety Chair



Join The Volunteer Team

Make an Impact While Having Fun.

The Mission: To Provide Connection, purpose and joy to enrich the lives of adults living with memory loss and their care partners

Volunteers learn to better understand the memory loss journey while offering companionship, dignity, and encouragement in a welcoming community. It's a rewarding opportunity to make a lasting difference—both in the lives of others and your own. All you need is a kind spirit and a willingness to be a friend! Volunteer on your schedule. The Friends Place meets M/W/F every week, but volunteers sign up for whatever day is convenient.

**Training will be held on
September 29, 9am-11:30am
at Dungeness Community Church.**

**Website: TheFriendsPlace-Sequim.com
Director, Rhonda Heyn
thefriendsplace@dcchurch.org**



TUMC: Little Free Pantry Needs for September

- Cans of hearty soups
- Single serve mac & cheese
- Individually wrapped beef sticks
- Single serve packages of cold cereal
- Cans of vegetables (corn, peas, green beans)

The Little Free Pantry continues to be emptied almost every single day. As we try to stretch each dollar of our budget to meet the increasing food demands, we are very grateful for every single donation that is made. Thank you TUMC!

Little Free Library

Our Little Free Library is open! Everyone is invited to share books for people of all ages. Feel welcome to put your gently used books in the Little Free Library!

TUMC Participates in “Bells Across America,” Thursday September 17 at 1 PM

Bells Across America is an annual nation-wide event that celebrates the anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution to kick off Constitution Week, September 17-23. On September 17, churches and civic organizations across America will ring bells as a simple way to recognize the importance of the Constitution in the life of our country. At 1pm, TUMC will participate by hosting a short ceremony and public ringing of the historic church bell. All are welcome! If you have a special bell, you may bring it. We will gather near the historic bell.

TUMC Safe Parking Program Update for September

The Safe Parking site is now at the north end of the church. There are five slots instead of three, and the program has access to storage room #3. Now there will be a refrigerator in addition to the current microwave and Keurig. As a result, our guests can have cool water on hot days and an opportunity to store perishables.

All four of our first guests have found stable housing, and our two current guests are meeting their goals, but finding stable housing continues to be a daunting challenge.

The Safe Parking team is very grateful for all the support from TUMC.

TUMC Finance Report

	Operating Fund	
	July	Year-to-Date
Income	\$ 32,242.62	\$238,472.73
Expenses	<u>\$ 38,416.34</u>	<u>\$260,160.79</u>
Difference	(\$ 6,173.72)	(\$ 21,688.06)

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Finance Chair Scott Owens, 626-833-4183 or email:

financechair@sequimtumc.org

Donate Online

[Donate Online Here](#)

On the TUMC website is an opportunity to donate electronically. Find the Donate button at the bottom of the Home Page or click on the Donate page tab. Then click on the button where you will find several options for making your donation.

Or...Use this QR code. It links you to the Donate page on the TUMC website. Use the camera on your cell phone. Hover over the code and *myvanco.com* appears. Click on this link and you are at the Donate page.





Taizé Prayer Service

4th Wednesday of Every Month in the Sanctuary at 6:30PM

Our Taizé services are on the 4th Wednesday of each month with the next one being on September 23. Taizé worship includes candlelight, prayers, readings, silence, and soft music with repetitive words led by singers and musicians. Starting this month, we will be blessed with both piano and a recorder at our service. The service is very meditative and offers an opportunity to step away from the commotion of everyday life and experience silence, while centering yourself on the Lord. You are invited to come and listen to what God is saying to you and find peace in this troubled world.



The TLC Team Needs You!

On the first and third Fridays of the month, a team of men and women get together for light maintenance around the church—both inside and out—jobs big and small. **In September they will meet on September 4 and 18.**

They meet at 9:30am beginning with prayer at the front of the church; all then go to their various assignments from a list compiled by Karen Eldridge. At the end, everyone sits down to enjoy coffee and delicious treats while socializing. Won't *you* join the TLC team? If interested, call Karen at 360-504-2650... or just show up! You'll be welcomed!



Morning Prayer

**Every Thursday at 9:15 am
in the Disciple room**

Pastor Vonda leads this prayer group which is for anyone who wishes to come. It lasts 45 minutes, and has a simple structure.

TUMC CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Vonda McFadden

Organist: Pauline Olsen

Accompanist: Donna Grubbs

Choral Director: Dr. Jerome Wright

Music Coordinator: Betsy Noland

Sight & Sound Coordinator: Lawrence Charters

Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Marian Needham

Ministry Assistant: Molly Bishop

Ministers: Congregation Members

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Church Office, 360-683-5367 church@sequimtumc.org

Church Website: www.sequimtumc.org

Pacific Northwest Conference Website: www.pnwumc.org

Official United Methodist Website: www.umc.org

OUR MISSION

Welcome • Grow • Empower • Serve



Trinity United Methodist Church
Sequim, Washington

100 N. Blake Avenue / P. O. Box 3697 / Sequim, WA 98382