

The Circuit Rider

Trinity United Methodist Church

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



AUGUST 2026

Volume 34 Number 8

From Pastor Vonda

"I'm sure you've heard the phrase "bloom where you're planted." I love flowers – daisies are my favorite. To bring out their beauty, we must water them, provide sunshine, and if we take care of them, they will bloom. I've been planted in this place, and I do intend to bloom here! I want you to bloom also. We need to take care of each other, encourage one another (that's the water), and enjoy the Son-shine a while each day as well.

I've had daisies at my last two parsonages and, once we find a home, I plan to plant some daisies there too. Some years I've taken care of my plants better than others; even so, I've received some grace, and their beauty always brought me joy. I recently bought some beautiful dahlias to spruce up my campsite.

I know this is the time for traveling, but if you are in town, plan to join us in worship or, if you are out of town, attend somewhere close to your location. You can always join us online. Times have sure changed, because now we can worship online from wherever we are! That has become the norm for many. Not just for us, but people all over the country...even the world.

I have only been with you a few weeks and I am amazed at the number of people involved in church activities. In most churches, there is a core group of people who do everything, but EVERYONE here is a core group! Rarely is there not someone at the church throughout the week. What a blessing

you have been these past few weeks to Tom and me and what a blessing you have been to Sequim these many years.

I am very much enjoying getting to know our new hometown and all of you. You have certainly made this transition easy for us. We're still looking for a home, but we have plenty of time. We're happy to be moving into an RV park near the church in early August.

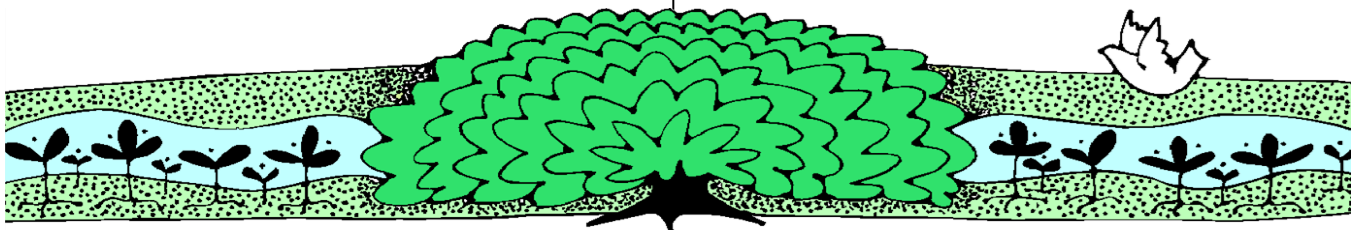
I'd like to spend some time with you away from church to get to know you. There will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship area for us to have lunch. We can do that at restaurant or your home or even at the church. Pick a time, sign up...and let's do lunch!

In the past I have sent out a weekly email in preparation for worship. I am wondering if any of you would be interested in that. I'll have a sign-up sheet for that as well, to gauge interest. It won't hurt my feelings if that's something you don't care to receive.

I am honored to be serving with you and very much look forward to the future here in Sequim. I know we are still getting to know each other but I already think of you as my family. What a joy to worship with you every week!

I'll look for you in church!

Pastor Vonda





Coming Soon!

Handbells are returning to Trinity. Tom McFadden will lead a handbell group this Fall. Tom and Pastor Vonda will also 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.



NOISY CAN OFFERING August 30 for The Clean Water Project

Trinity UMC has a long-standing custom of having a Noisy Can Offering when there is a 5th Sunday in a month. The Clean Water Project at the Methodist Primary School in Larteh Akuapem, Ghana, is the recipient for August's NCO. Rev. Dr. Jean Claude Masuka Maleka has requested our support for this project which is similar to the Clean Water project TUMC supported when he and his wife were assigned to the Ivory Coast. A few years ago, he and his wife gave a presentation to the TUMC congregation about their ministries in Africa.

Hundreds of students at the school begin each day eager to learn and build a brighter future. However, the lack of reliable potable water presents a constant struggle. Students often arrive at school without enough drinking water and are sometimes compelled to walk long distances in search of water during school hours. This not only

disrupts teaching and learning, but it also exposes children to health risks associated with unsafe water sources.

The Clean Water Project would have a transformative impact. It would improve student health, reduce absenteeism, enhance concentration in the classroom, and create a more beneficial learning environment for both pupils and teachers.

Coins are the noisy part of the Noisy Coin Offering. However, paper currency and checks are gratefully accepted. Checks should be made out to TUMC and please note "Clean Water Ghana" on the comment line.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

One of the greatest challenges of being a family caregiver is maintaining one's own physical and emotional health. The Powerful Tools for Caregivers class is designed to: help a caregiver reduce personal stress; communicate feelings and needs; use community services; deal with emotions such as anger, guilt, and depression; and make tough care-giving decisions.

This six-week class will be offered again at TUMC on Tuesdays, 10:00 to 11:30am, from September 1 through October 6. Please sign up by calling Judy Croonquist, 360-582-1370 or Barb Parse, 360-683-2113.

We, at Sequim Community Aid, are so grateful for your continued support with the donation of \$2,000. Our mission is to help the fine people of Sequim when difficult circumstances arrive and relief is needed to keep a roof over their heads or to keep lights and power on. With generous donors such as you, we are able to provide that help and stability. We sincerely thank you for your trust in us.

*Volunteers at
Sequim Community Aid*



Collecting Back-to-School Supplies One More Week!

The last week to bring in your back-to-school supply donations is Sunday, August 2. Please place items in the box in the Media Center off from the fellowship hall. Lists of needed supplies can be found on the table in the fellowship hall.

Another option: supplies can be taken to the annual Stuff the Bus Event on Friday, August 7, 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Walmart parking lot.

Thank you for your generous support for our Sequim students.



Sequim Back-to-School Fair Saturday, August 22, 10am to 1pm At the Boys & Girls Club 400 West Fir Street, Sequim

This amazing and fun event will provide free school supplies, free food (for those 18 & under), free resources and free fun!

There are several ways to help; if you would like to volunteer, go to bgc-op.org. Click on events and then click on back-to-school fair.



TUMC: Little Free Pantry Needs for August

- Canned meats
- Healthy snack bars
- "Cups of fruit"
- Cans of baked beans
- Jars of peanut butter and/or single serve

It's shocking how fast things have changed in the past few months. Because more people are finding it difficult to pay for basic needs, the need for food continues to grow. Grocery prices have jumped; food donations from the community have seriously decreased. Any donations that you can share are greatly appreciated. If you have questions, contact Jan Kreidler.

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!

To give aid for disasters:

Checks can be issued to TUMC, indicating the Advance Number on the memo line.

UMCOR International Disaster:

Advance #982450

UMCOR US Disaster & Recovery:

Advance #901670

PNW Conference Disaster Fund:

Advance #352



Be There. Be Hope.

TUMC Safe Parking Program Update for August

Two goals for the TUMC Safe Parking Pilot Program are to provide a safe place for vulnerable people living in their vehicles to get back on their feet and pursue important goals such as stable housing and to provide a model or example of how other faith communities could establish their own safe parking program. Two guests have found stable housing and are no longer living in their vehicles, and two more should have stable housing by the end of summer. St Andrew's Episcopal Church in Port Angeles successfully completed a Safe Parking practice run during the Lavender Fest.



One guest who now has stable housing has completed all the training to become a volunteer!

During the second quarter of the year, 24 volunteers have provided over 300 hours of service to the TUMC Safe Parking Program. This is a labor-intensive ministry, but the goals are being achieved, thanks to all the volunteers.

TUMC Finance Report

	Operating Fund	
	June	Year-to-Date
Income	\$ 51,064.54	\$210,154.11
Expenses	\$ 38,471.58	\$221,744.45
Difference	\$ 12,592.96	(\$ 11,590.34)

Note: At our current spending rate, TUMC has four years of reserves for the operating fund. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Finance Chair Scott Owens, 626-833-4183 or email: financechair@sequimtumc.org

Donate Online

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

[Donate Online Here](#)

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.



Sunday Bible Study

This study is led by **Joey Olson** and meets at **11:20am** (except they will meet at 11:45 on August 2 after the reception for Pastor Vonda and her husband Tom.) They are beginning a study on the book of Acts. All are welcome. For questions, please contact Joey at joeywolson@gmail.com.

Blood Drive at TUMC

Friday/Saturday, August 21-22

11am-5pm Friday; 9am-3pm Saturday

If you have questions or wish to make an appointment, please call: 1-800-398-7888.

Photo ID required.

***The need never stops...
please donate blood.***



Jim Stoffer rang the Trinity United Methodist Church Bell on July 4, 2026, participating in the National Freedom Bells Ceremonies which commemorated America's 250th Anniversary. Pictured with Jim is Pastor Vonda McFadden.





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 August 26th. 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.

Morning Prayer – All are Welcome

Every Thursday at 9:15am in the Disciple Room led by Pastor Vonda. It lasts 45 minutes and has a simple structure.



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 August they will meet on August 7 and 21.**

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!

Circuit Rider Deadlines

Articles for the September *Circuit Rider* will be due August 20. Subsequent deadlines are September 21 and October 20.

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