

The Circuit Rider

Trinity United Methodist Church

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



JULY 2026

Volume 34 Number 7

From Pastor Vonda

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with a heart full of joy and eager anticipation that I write my first letter to you as your new pastor. My husband Tom and I are incredibly grateful for the warm welcome we've already received, and we feel blessed to call this congregation our new church family.

As I write this, we are in West Yellowstone at the west entrance of Yellowstone National Park. We are spending our last few weeks with family before we join you, as we conclude our year of traveling these United States. It's been an adventure, and I'm all about new adventures! Our time at Trinity is sure to be a new adventure for us all. I believe our God is all about new adventures, too.

Tom and I are originally from Oklahoma, but have lived in many places across the US. We have called the PNW home for 20 years. We have two children, Heather and Lonnie, as well as two grandchildren, Haylee and Piper. Our daughter, her husband and granddaughters live in Kelso/Longview, and our son lives in Suffolk, Virginia. We are pet parents to three cats, Samantha, Helen and Penny.

I previously served at Kelso United Methodist Presbyterian Church as the lead pastor, and associate at Castle Rock and Longview UMCs as part of the Three Rivers

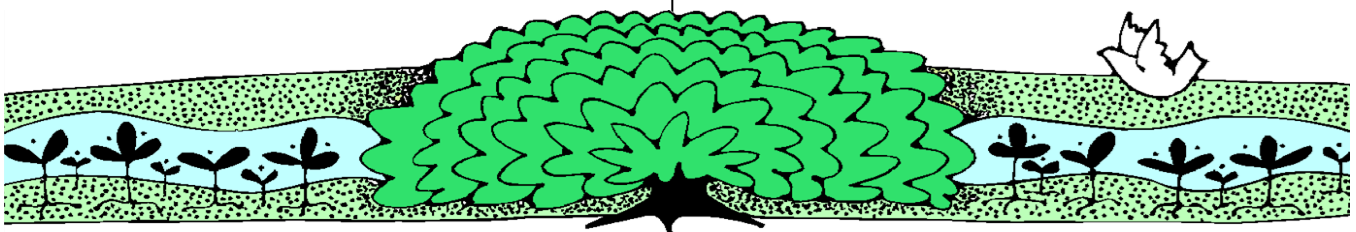
Cooperative. I am passionate about missions, abroad and in our community. My journey in ministry has taught me that the church is not just a building; it is a living, breathing community of faith.

As we look ahead, my prayer for Trinity is that we will continue to be a beacon of light and love in our community. In the coming weeks, I am most looking forward to getting to know you—your stories, your hopes, and your dreams for this church. Please don't hesitate to reach out, share a cup of coffee or tea (my preference) or introduce yourself after service.

I know that the changing of pastors always brings some anxiety. I'm sure some of you are nervous or worried. That's okay, the unknown is always a little scary and, to be honest, I'm a little nervous too. We will be finding our way together, and I am certain God will guide us and strengthen us in the days ahead as we begin ministry together.

I'm eager to learn about Sequim, all of you, Trinity and our surrounding area. Let us lean into this next chapter together with open hearts and a shared vision of God's love. I cannot wait to see what the Lord has in store for us!

Pastor Vonda



Coming Soon

Quest Sermon Series

Travel as a Spiritual Act

I have always loved to travel. As a child, my family rarely traveled but, as an adult, I have traveled to all 50 states and 20 countries. Traveling isn't for everyone. My mother rarely left the state of Oklahoma. I love meeting new people, learning about new cultures and regions. Marcia McFee says, "Even for those who will never be able to venture beyond their immediate locales, there are so many ways to 'travel' and learn about other cultures and religions. The main point of the series is not so much where or how you 'travel,' but that the act of expanding our horizons and challenging our preconceived notions is essential to our journey of faith. This is the 'travelers mindset' and it can also happen right at home."

She continues, "Whether you travel far away or see your local surroundings as if for the first time, pilgrimage has long been a spiritual practice, and 'journey' a deeply-felt metaphor for our spiritual lives.

'Quest' comes from the Latin root meaning 'ask, seek.' This four-week worship series will encourage us to open ourselves more fully to the curiosity and wonder, reflection and transformation that travelers—not merely tourists—experience when they choose to immerse themselves in soul-widening adventures."

I hope you'll join me as we look at our community and world and discover our place in it.

Pastor Vonda

Welcoming Our New Pastor

The Rev. Vonda McFadden begins her ministry among us the first week in July, as she arrives in Sequim with her husband Tom midweek and leads worship as our Pastor on Sunday, July 5. Vonda has served as a full-time Pastor in the Pacific Northwest Conference since 2009, most recently for

twelve years at the Kelso United Methodist Presbyterian Church in Kelso, Washington.

Come ready to welcome the McFaddens next Sunday and begin the journey with Pastor Vonda.

Please Wear Your Name Tags

One of the nicest ways we can welcome our new Pastor is by wearing our name tags! Please plan to wear your name tag every Sunday for several weeks as Vonda gets to know us by name. If you don't currently have a name tag, sign up at the long table in the Fellowship Hall today to have one made for you. You can pick it up next Sunday morning at that same table, prior to worship.

Sequim's Lavender Festival is coming up July 16-19

There will be lots of visitor traffic around the Church and the streets throughout the community. The Church Parking Lots, in partnership with the City of Sequim and the Lavender Festival, will



be open for public parking. On Sunday morning the 19th, the church parking lots will be closed to public parking and only open to folks attending church. **Please pick up a bright green "Attending Church" placard, to display in your windshield or show the parking lot attendants. (available for the next three Sundays)** This will help the Parking and Traffic team manage the parking lot. This is also a time to use our welcoming and inviting skills as you greet folks. Our Safety Team Lead and Community Liaison, Jim Stoffer, will be on-scene and can be reached at 360-775-9356 and his main email at jamesstoffer@wavecable.com. If you would like to assist on one of the days, Jim is seeking some additional Disciples.



TUMC: Little Free Pantry Needs for July

- Canned chicken, tuna, Spam
- Cans of fruits/vegetables
- Cans of hearty soup
- 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!

TUMC Safe Parking Program Update

Ten people have applied to the Safe Parking Program, six have been approved and one is pending.

Two of our guests have transitioned to more stable housing – one of our main goals. Another goal is to create a template for other faith-based programs for safe parking. As their first step toward developing a Safe Parking Program, St. Andrew's Episcopal church in Port Angeles



will host a mandatory Community Meeting, just like we did in the Spring of 2025.

Later this summer, TUMC Safe Parking plans to move to a permanent site on the north side of the Church. The new site will have five spaces.

Back-to-School Supplies

We will be collecting Back-to-School Supplies July 12 – August 2. There will be a box in the Media Center (off of 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.



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.

Dear Trinity UMC Family,

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for the overwhelmingly beautiful and meaningful send-off you gave me. The luncheon, thoughtful gifts, many kind cards were such a generous outpouring of love. I thanked God for each gift and cherished each card. I felt celebrated and deeply cared for.



Serving Christ and His Kingdom alongside you has been a joy and privilege. Your faith, kindness and support have shaped me in ways I will carry into my future ministry. Thank you for the prayers and for the ways you have embodied Christ's love.

Please know I leave with immense gratitude and affection. I was overwhelmed by your generosity and abundant love at the farewell. I will be praying for you and Pastor Vonda. I will be giving thanks for all God has done—and will continue to do—through the remarkable community of TUMC.

Your grateful sister in Christ,
Pastor Desi

Dear Trinity United Methodist Church,

Looking back over the past 13 years and our journey to spread our beloved Respite model, God has sent people, surprises and resources along the way to continue to fuel our efforts. Every time I am tired and overwhelmed, a letter such as yours arrives as if from God himself to give me a boost of confidence and encourage us on. I am sad that Tim's Place needed a different path, but I will never forget it was your church's vision to try something new to bolster your community, thus leading to RFA having a western presence and now a few more ministries because of your example. I know church life is always evolving and there are seasons for everything. My prayer is that you find new growth in your community that fits your church family.

Thank you for this generous gift in honor of the Dunns. I promise to put it to good

use! We now have 72 ministries in 18 states and 13 denominations! God is GOOD! We are growing every day and this will help so much -

Daphne Johnston
Respite for All Foundation

TUMC Finance Report

	Operating Fund	
	May	Year-to-Date
Income	\$ 23,078.04	\$155,165.57
Expenses	\$ 34,638.47	\$183,272.87
Difference	(\$11,560.43)	(\$ 28,107.30)

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

[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.



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.

Taizé Prayer Service

July 22 - 4th Wednesday of the
Month in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm



Taizé worship includes candlelight, icons, prayers, readings, silence, and repetitive musical chants. In Taizé's simple,

meditative services, icons are spiritual tools that provide a visual focus to encourage stillness and support prayer. Grounded in the belief in the incarnation, icons act as "windows" into divine reality.

This contemplative worship service offers an opportunity to step away from the commotion of everyday life and experience silence, while centering 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 July they will meet on July 3 and 17.**

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!

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

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