

OUR VISION

We discover, explore, embrace and share God's belovedness.

OUR MISSION

*We are companions on a spiritual journey
engaging minds, transforming hearts, and empowering hands
to serve Jesus Christ in our local and global community.*

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

8:15AM Choir Rehearsal, Hidden Chapel
9:00AM Children's Sunday School, Rainbow Room/
Junior High Room
9:00AM Seekers Class, Hesseltine Hall
9:00AM Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
10:00AM Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:30AM Children & Youth Choir Rehearsal,
Hidden Chapel
3:30PM MS Youth Group, Youth Room

MONDAY, APRIL 16

9:30AM Knitting Group, Conrad Room
6:30PM Monday Night Leaven Group, Conrad Room

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

9:30AM Irish Leaven Group, Conrad Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

9:00AM Bridges Group, Brewed Awakenings
10:00AM Rachel Circle, Conrad Room
10:30AM Staff Meeting, Church Office

6:30PM Finance Team, Conrad Room
6:30PM HS Youth Group, Youth Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

12:00PM Methodist Foundation, Conrad Room
6:30PM SPR, Conrad Room

FRIDAY, APRIL 20 - 22

SIB Retreat @ Ocean Park

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

8:15AM Choir Rehearsal, Hidden Chapel
9:00AM Children's Sunday School,
Rainbow Room/Junior High Room
9:00AM Seekers Class, Hesseltine Hall
9:00AM Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
10:00AM Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:30AM Children & Youth Choir Rehearsal,
Hidden Chapel
3:30PM MS Youth Group, Youth Room

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Liturgist

Linda Lewis

Ushers

Hal Leonhardt Team

Hosts

Sheila Leonhardt
Marion Noe

Coffee Server

Dovy Landerholm

Audio

Scott Hansen

Video

Jesse Marichalar

Information Booth

Mary Lookingbill

STAFF

MINISTERS...ALL WHO FOLLOW JESUS CHRIST

PastorJon Short
Program/Facilities Administrator....Gary Carter
Director of Youth MinistriesJustin Nutting
Director of Music Ministries....Thomas Rheingans
TreasurerMichelle Mehl
SecretaryBecky Baxter
CustodianBud Stoenescu
Nursery CoordinatorElizabeth Janney
Lay LeadersScott Sawyer, Dean Lookingbill
LIFE CENTER PARTNERS
Story Space ...Casey Banks
Pinoy Van-Port ...Lyn Rush
Little Acorn Preschool ...Katie Coop



Choosing Hope

Sunday, April 15, 2018



VANCOUVER FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

Life Centered

401 E 33rd Street • Vancouver, WA 98663 • (360) 693-5881
www.vanfumc.org • office@vanfumc.org

Thank you to all Sunday volunteers!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Seekers Class

Sundays at 9:00AM in Hesselstine Hall

Facilitated By Bob Hanley

On April 22, the Seekers Class will start a new book, "The Sins of Scripture" by John Shelby Spong.

The Bible contains many passages that believers and nonbelievers alike would recognize as appalling theology. Whether these texts are used to discriminate, oppress, or condemn, they distort the truth of Christianity and cast doubt upon the love of God. Now legendary John Shelby Spong addresses these passages, shattering our misconceptions and delivering a new vision of how Christians today can use the Bible.

YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Youth Room at 9:00AM • GRADES 6TH ~ 12TH

Facilitated by Justin Nutting

The youth are currently studying "The Way" by Rev. Adam Hamilton.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children grades K-2 will meet for Sunday School curriculum at 9:00AM in the Rainbow Room next to the nursery. Children grades 3-5 will meet in the Jr. High Room downstairs at the same time. During worship hour, children are welcome to Children's Moments during service, about 10:10AM.

Afterward, children grades K-2 are welcome back to the Rainbow Room for an extended Sunday School. Older children are welcome to enjoy service with their families or, if needed, can be accompanied to the lobby or the Conrad Room where church services are broadcast live.

CHILDCARE

Childcare is available for children up to Kindergarten beginning 30 minutes before the start of worship. We ask that you pick up your child within 15 minutes of the end of worship.

QUIET ROOM

FUMC has a quiet room if you prefer a quiet, peaceful setting to nurse your infant. The room is located next to the nursery and has rocking chairs available for your use. The quiet room has a speaker so you will be able to hear the message if you would like.

INFANT & TODDLER NURSERY

Located at the south end of the office hall, childcare is available for infants & toddlers during worship service.

ACTIVITY TIME

Children up to Kindergarten may attend Activity Time in the Rainbow Room during the service. After Children's Moments, parents are asked to accompany their children to Activity Time and sign them in.

As a courtesy to others, please be mindful of those who are sensitive to perfumes and scents and use these items sparingly.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY - APRIL 22

As a member of The United Methodist Church, your gift, on this day, equips Native congregations to worship and serve as only they can. This work and hundreds of other ministries are possible because you give. Our Giving Allows Native Americans to Encounter, Worship and Serve Jesus. When you support Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. And you empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ. Offering envelopes are in today's bulletin. Thank you for your support!

FAMILY CULTURAL NIGHT @ WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY

VanFUMC will cook, deliver and serve the taco/nacho bar for Washington Elementary School's annual Family Cultural Night on Wednesday, April 25. We will have the food piping hot and ready to deliver to the school by 5:15PM. We will serve the youth of the school and their families, about 200 folks, from 6:00PM to 7:30PM. If you would like to deliver and serve the dinner, please sign up at the information booth or call the church office to let us know. You can email program@vanfumc.org for more information or to let us know as well.

RACHEL CIRCLE

The Circle will meet on Wednesday, April 18 at 10:00AM in the Conrad Room.

ENCORE CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES...

Mark your calendars now for the next concert of the Encore series ~ An American in Paris, Saturday, May 5th at 7:00PM! Our May concert draws inspiration from the famous movie of the same name including the music of George Gershwin. French art songs, Debussy, Ravel, Louis Moreau Gottshalk, and Parisian Jazz are on the on the playbill.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are currently in the process of updating our Church Directory. Many of the photos are outdated. If you would like to use a photo that you have, please email it to Gary at program@vanfumc.org; bring one by the office, or ask about having a photo taken at the Information Booth. We will have directories ready in the next month with a suggested donation of \$5 to cover printing costs. Until then, you will find the April 2018 Church Directory on our website vanfumc.org/About Us/Church Directory. It is password protected, so if you don't remember or have never known the password, please call the church office 360-693-5881.

HERITAGE SUNDAY ~ MAY 20TH, 2018

A Special day is planned for First Church as we recognize those in our midst who are 90 or more years of age in 2018 and those have been members of First Church for 50 years or more. These wise and wonderful members of our congregation are being honored for their commitment to their faith and to our church family. "Save the Date" postcards have been sent to the invitees. Please let the church office know if you didn't receive yours. We want to make sure we have included everyone. Please contact Mary Lookingbill at 369-597-8045/m. lookingbill@comcast.net with questions.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

APRIL 15, 2018 10:00AM

Welcome! It is a joy to share together in this worship service today. As companions on a spiritual journey, may our minds be engaged, our hearts be transformed, and our hands be empowered through the worship of Jesus Christ.

Congregational portions of prayers and responses are in bold type.

*** If it is comfortable for you to do so, please stand.**

PRELUDE

As you enter the Sanctuary, please be mindful of others and refrain from conversation. Please take this time of worship preparation to center your mind and heart and invite God's Holy Spirit to minister to you.

*OPENING HYMN

Blessed Assurance

Hymnal 369

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Even though we face challenging times in our lives,

Congregation: We can have confidence because our lives are in Jesus.

Liturgist: Jesus works to lift us out of those times of despair,

Congregation: Providing strength through the power of His love.

Liturgist: May this assurance open our hearts and minds,

Congregation: To all the wonderful possibilities hope holds out to us.

WELCOME

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CHILDREN'S SONG

Tell Me The Stories of Jesus

Hymnal 277 vs. 1

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor Jon

As we sing, children are welcome to come to the front; afterward, children grades K-2 are welcome back to the Rainbow Room for an extended Sunday School. Older children are welcome to enjoy service with their families or, if needed, can be accompanied to the lobby or the Conrad Room where church services are broadcast live. Ushers have children's worship bags available for young children. Please leave the bag in the pew when you leave.

PRAISE BAND SET

Blessed Be Your Name

Change My Heart Oh God

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CHORAL AMEN

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

The ministries of this church are supported by the congregation. If you are a guest today, please simply enjoy the worship service.

OFFERTORY

Piano Sonata No.10 K.330 3rd Movement

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye
heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

CHOIR ANTHEM

Gloria in Excelsis

Antonio Vivaldi,
edited by Mason Martens

3rd through 5th graders who want to participate in the Children & Youth Choir are invited to meet for rehearsal in Hidden Chapel after the Choir Anthem.

SCRIPTURE

Leader: These are words of wisdom for all of God's people

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

1 Peter 1:3-6

SERMON

Choosing Hope

Pastor Jon Short

*CLOSING HYMN

Hope of the World

Hymnal 178

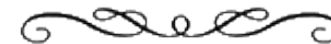
*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION SONG

Shalom to You

Hymnal 666

POSTLUDE



The flowers on the altar today are provided by the Hogan Family in memory of Bill.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Judy Johnson

Wayne L'Amoreaux

Margaret & Cecil Golden

Bob Woodworth

Pat Swanson

Mindy Ludolph

Lorraine Dix

John Roberts

Gordon Meyer

Lynda Botts

Mary Lou Richeson

Rhoda Laws

Family of Mildred Wilson

Margie Brown

We also keep in our prayers all of those in our church family who are recovering from illness, residing in long-term care homes, and those who are on our email prayer chain. If you would like to be added to the email prayer chain, please contact Pastor Jon or the church office.