

## Express Edition

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### **A Note from Pastor Bruce**

#### **COVID-19 Response - Phase 2**

As of, Thursday, June 18, 2020

*Hello Church,*

*As we continue to live with the pandemic of COVID-19, the church continues to be open and there have been so many wonderful moments of ministry. I am ever so thankful for the way we have been able to continue to worship together with the videos each week. Your comments of support and connecting with one another mean so much. As you watch the videos please do click the "like" button, and subscribe to your church YouTube channel.*

*The church Leadership Team has designated a small group to lead us through the opening phases. We are living into phase 2. There are a variety of ways churches are responding during this time. Our aim at VanFUMC is to do our best "to do no harm." For us right now that means continuing to do safe social distant ministry.*

*Phases 3 and 4 will look different from the way we have done church before. I hope we have the opportunity to celebrate how God is inspiring us to take this opportunity to do a new thing. We will endeavor to safely move toward public gatherings and worship.*

*You are in my prayers. Please do reach out by email or phone if you have prayer needs or concerns.*

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Bruce Smith*

Vancouver First United Methodist Church

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**"To Do No Harm."**

# PHASE 2 Reopening

## at Vancouver First United Methodist Church

As of, Thursday, June 18, 2020

*A Reopening Task force of Vancouver First United Methodist Church is developing an appropriate re-opening plan for the use of our building. We are developing this plan with the best resources provided by the State of Washington and the offices of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference. We will do our best to maintain our Wesleyan aim to “do no harm.” We may be slower than some other churches to open for public worship. We will do our best to continue to connect the people of the church with opportunities to serve our local and global community.*

### During “phase 2” of re-opening:

#### The following individuals are allowed to be in the church building:

- Staff will be able to use their offices as necessary
- Volunteers involved in worship recording, keeping the size to 5 people or less
- Vendors by appointment through a staff member
- Face masks will be worn when any persons are in the building with the following exception:
- Staff members working in their personal workspace or volunteers recording worship provided they use proper social distancing from other workers

The building is still not open for general public use.

Individuals should self-monitor for symptoms of illness. If present, they should stay home and consider contacting a health professional.

We will soon be posting information about re-opening during phases 3 and 4 and how those will affect worship and other gatherings of the church.

### July Birthdays

Barbara Luke	Julie Wiesner
Kris Thomas	David Willcox
Jim Bayly	Robert Hanley
James Cromer	Robert Peck
Gayle Moore	Steve Rasmussen
Nancy Janney	Kristy Johnson
Barbara Laughlin	Charleen Thomas
Katelyn Byers	Robinson
Ray Johnson	Dovy Landerholm
Dennis Mattson	Shobhna Lincoln
Daryll Pierce	Michaela Reigel
Brynnlee Williams	Ryan Smith
Bryton Williams	Brad Thomas
Sean Jeffries	Jean Firestone
Kristina Bowen	Valerie Estep
Devon Newman	Joan Cromer

### July Anniversaries

Larry & Eleanor Sefton
Doy & Yen Ortega
Aaron & Sharon Brown
Thom & Susan Prescott
Phil & Nancy Janney
Phil & Denise McGuinness
Robin & Joanne Ruzek
Mark & Julie Wiesner
Larry & Jan Maaske
Jennifer & Jeanette Williams
Dean & Mary Lookingbill
Dennis & Kathleen Mattson
Scott & Jeri Sawyer
David & Pam Stoller

# V.B.S - August 2020

## SWEET SUMMER CELEBRATION

### A Virtual Vacation Bible School Experience

*We are looking forward to our upcoming virtual vacation bible school, and would love to invite families to begin registering children today! We are planning on August 10, 11 and 12 as the three days of our "Sweet Summer Celebration!"*



On day one, a Monday afternoon, we will kick off virtual VBS with a drive-through tunnel of volunteers and revelry in our church parking lot featuring (socially distanced) high school and middle school youth and adult volunteers making a celebration tunnel. The children of our VBS (grades K-5) will join their families in the drive through, get a wacky pack of summer goodies to celebrate our three day VBS, many sweet treats made by our middle school youth, high school youth, and of course youth director Justin Nutting, a hot family dish such as a pizza or fried chicken, and have their picture taken ... again, all while social distancing.



Day two will feature our virtual VBS video released on YouTube and Facebook (similar to how we are doing church service now) with an 11 a.m. premiere and available to watch all summer. At 5:30 p.m. on that second day (Tuesday), there will be a Zoom fellowship for the kids with the pastor, leaders from our Kid's Zone, Justin, and the VBS registered kiddos and their families.



Day three (Wednesday) will be the same as day two with the final video premiere and evening zoom fellowship loaded with faith, prayers and discussion.

To register a child for our virtual VBS, please RSVP to [office@vanfumc.org](mailto:office@vanfumc.org) with the child's name and his or her family email address for contact information. And for those who would like to volunteer for the tunnel of cheer and handing out of goodies on day one, please email [program@vanfumc.org](mailto:program@vanfumc.org) to sign up and take part!



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

## Fresh from First

### A Success

Over the past few weeks, First Church has purchased and delivered gallons of milk, dozens of fresh eggs, over 30 loaves of bread and delicious fresh strawberries. Such essentials items are supplementing the meals for our neighbors at the Pythian and they are incredibly grateful! These independent living seniors appreciate the kindness of our church community as they continue to stay strong and healthy during the pandemic. This weekly

## United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women is on hiatus for the summer. Mission U was cancelled as was our District meeting that was to be held in September at our church. We hope to have some information in August about any fall activities. There is so much unknown at this time. The board will stay in touch and let everyone know what we come up with. We have tried to contact everyone with a phone call the last month or so, if you haven't been contacted please call me and let me know. 360-573-0399.

Bev Thomas

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### SUNDAYS

Online Worship Service - 10 a.m.

Youth Sunday School online - 11 a.m.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Registration Starts

### TUESDAYS

Facebook Live Devotional - 10 a.m.

### WEDNESDAYS

M.S. Youth Group online - 1 p.m.

H.S. Youth Group online - 3 p.m.

Church Fellowship online - 5:30 p.m.

### THURSDAYS

Facebook Live Devotional - 10 a.m.

## Contacts

Senior Pastor | Rev. Bruce Smith

Program & Facilities Administrator | Gary Carter

Director of Youth Ministries | Justin Nutting

Director of Music Ministries | Thomas Rheingans

Choir Director | Amber Tripp

Nursery Coordinator | Jenifer Walton

Treasurer | Michelle Mehl

Office Administrator | Ginny Sorenson

Maintenance Technician | Scott Hansen

Lay Leaders | Evan Hull & John Gentry

Trustee's Chair | Thomas Musser