



GROWING DEEPER IN FAITH
REACHING WIDER IN LOVE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SNOHOMISH

The Light | October | 2024

Pastor's Corner

"I will tell the coming generations the glorious deeds of the Lord and the wonders he has done...that the next generation might tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God." (Ps. 78:3-7)

Years ago when our youth group took a mission trip to New Mexico, we visited Cacho Natural Historic Park where we saw monumental structures which had been erected by the ancestral Pueblo people from 850 to 1250 AD. Imagine our wonder when the park ranger informed us that the native people had used flying buttresses to provide structural support and hold up the roofs of some of their buildings at the same time they were becoming a dominant feature in the building of European Gothic Cathedrals like Notre Dame. The Pueblo people had learned this skill on their own, independent of European builders.

While Pueblo houses of worship were built underground and were considered the heart of the community, houses of worship in Europe were erected above ground, often as magnificent works of art that would draw people together into community and into the mysterious presence of God. Beyond the experience of awe that these architectural wonders elicit, isn't it stunning to think about the amount of time and work that went into building them? Erecting a cathedral is a long and arduous task, with one generation depending upon the next to complete the next stage until the magnificent work of art is complete. Those who laid the foundation had to trust that future believers would continue what they started. Those who erected the walls had to trust those who followed to build the flying buttresses to support those walls. They, in turn, had to trust in those who would finish the work and add the spire. Day by day, stone by stone - a cathedral was slowly built from the ground up.

In the same way, a temple is being built in our hearts by the many people who have helped shape us - grandparents, parents, teachers, pastors, mentors. Day by day and stone by stone - nurturing word by nurturing word - our faith is built from the ground up through the hands of those who have helped shape us. Who are the builders who have helped give shape to the temple that has been gently sculpted in your heart over the years? What mentors do you recall among that great cloud of witnesses whose faith has helped build yours?

Every year at this time, we prepare for our consecration Sunday (November 3) and considering our financial pledge to the church. As we do so, we look with a deep feeling of gratitude upon those who have had a significant hand in building our church since its beginning nearly 150 years ago - its people, its ministries, its mission, its facilities. As we build on the shoulders of those who've gone before us, we see how God's faithfulness has been evident in their faithful giving and how it has inspired our own. *What we give through our time, talents, and treasures provides the mortar to continue building upon the ministries of the past in anticipation of all the good that is to come in the future.*

It is a privilege and pleasure to be fellow builders with you, knowing that our children and grandchildren and following generations will be nurtured in the love of Jesus Christ because of the gifts we give today.

Grateful for your generosity!

Pastor Charlie



Ministries Team Reports:

1. **Connexion Ministry Team** - With the excitement and good attendance for the summer series on Overcoming Bias led by Elizabeth Klein, it was decided to ask Robin Stangland to lead the 3 Practices method of discussing difficult issues in the Adult Ed hour from 9-10:00am on the last two Sunday mornings of September. Then beginning Sunday, October 6th, Elizabeth will begin leading a class, **FREEDOM IN CHRIST** from Galatians.



(NOTE: Two Connexion groups are starting up for members to join. Wednesday morning with Pastor Charlie and Wednesday evening with Jon Bishop. The Sunday 9:00 am group is joining the class.)



2. **Family Ministry Team** - Shelagh Hizey has hosted the Youth group through the summer with Pool parties. Christ the King Lutheran Church has joined for three of them. While Pastor Charlie is working with her, she is requesting help from the congregation and would appreciate your support.



3. **Mission Ministry Team** - Heidi Saikaly reports faithfully about the situation in Gaza and The West Bank. This month was the visit of Zoughbi Zoughbi and arranging for him to speak many places about his conflict resolution work in the West Bank.



4. **Prayers & Squares** - Sue Davis reports a busy month with 7 quilts in the pipeline. With new members and more organization we have managed to bring half of them to the congregation for prayers. We appreciate your participation in sending in prayers for the people we serve and giving us names of people who might need comfort and prayers!

5. **Women's Ministry Team** - Linda Mueller reports the work of the summer Farmer's Market, Bunco coming up at her home in October, and a Book Study in November in the Lakeview Hall on November 16th. Women who would like to join their team are welcome to talk with her.



6. **Sanctuary Refresh** - Jon Bishop passed out two designs for the sanctuary chancel configuration for us to comment on. He also requested Session to recommend the next steps of the project. Further discussion was tabled until the October meeting.

BUSINESS:

- Treasurer's Report: A positive bottom line for the July was reported. Training for Ministry Team Leader's budgets has begun, with mission, vision and team descriptions reviewed also.
- A Session retreat has been rescheduled for November 16th.
- The Interim Search Task Force has two candidates to interview soon.
- The playground project is taking shape. Thanks to donations of funds and labor from Ray Pettigrew, Vern Fox and Jim Kassebaum.
- Session voted to approve the contract with McDonald-Miller for the relocation of the electrical panel last month. At Finance Committee's request, we reassessed that decision and after review Session confirmed its vote and the contract was signed. This will require we not have power in the church for at least two weeks while it's being installed, likely in the late fall/early winter time frame.
- Nominating Committee has filled 3 positions for elders and 2 for deacons while still interviewing and praying for 2 more deacons.
- Carol Mastrofina updated Session on the strategic planning that the SWOT exercise started for us. This will be helpful for the interim period also.
- Session voted to adopt a statement reflecting our core value of inclusion to be printed in the Sunday bulletin: *"Welcome to FPCS. We seek to be an affirming church where all people are welcomed. We desire to have an open heart and mind to diverse narratives, honoring the voices of those silenced and harmed by not being heard."* Session also approved including the full inclusion statement on a quarterly basis.
- Session also approved a spoken statement for worship:
"Welcome to FPCS. We are a church seeking to reflect the Spirit of Christ as we live into our mission of growing deeper in faith and reaching wider in love.
In this place, you are respected as a child of God.
No matter your age, marital status, sexuality or gender identity,
whether you're a lifelong Christian or a spiritual seeker,
whoever you are, wherever you're from, whatever burdens you carry,
whatever questions and doubts you bring, you are welcome here.
- With 10 new members since June, our clerk reports total membership is 226.
- Session is considering how to proceed with devotions as the Barton book seems to not meet the needs of all.

Next Session meeting is October 7th at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Marita Bishop

Consecration Sunday Coming November 3

Our Stewardship team has started planning our annual Consecration Sunday and no-cost catered luncheon. We have set the date for **November 3rd**. Our theme this year is:

"Encouraging one another toward love and good works." (Hebrews 10:24)

Rev. David Rohrer a retired pastor of University Presbyterian in Seattle and Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in Bothell will be preaching on that passage.

This is a special Sunday where we examine our hearts and the many blessings that have been given to us by God. Then, in thanksgiving, we return to God a portion of these gifts for the mission and ministries of our church in 2025.

Please reserve this date on your calendar. We are looking forward to seeing you all there.

The Stewardship Team,

Polly Fox, Dede Babcock, Jon McKenzie, Jim Kassebaum, Herm VanLoo and Charlie Lewis

CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Snohomish

CROP HUNGER WALK

OCTOBER 13, 2024

SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON

**27th Snohomish Community
CROP HUNGER WALK
Sunday, October 13th
12:30 pm
St. John's Episcopal Church**

Church World Service (CWS) was founded in 1946 and is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and communions, providing sustainable self-help, development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance around the world. The CWS mission is to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice at the national and international levels.

Please donate, walk, and support our Walk with your prayers.

Scan for more information or go to crophungerwalk.org/snohomishwa



2024 DINE-OUT / TAKE OUT EVENT

All Day, Tuesday, October 8, 2024

**El Paraiso Mexican Grill
1431 Avenue D, Snohomish
360 568-5406**

**Andy's Fish House
1229 1st St. Snohomish, WA 98290
(360) 862-0782**

Show this slip to your waiter as you order and a % of the value of your food will be donated to The Snohomish CROP Hunger Walk.

2024 SNOHOMISH CROP HUNGER WALK

**At StJohn's Episcopal Church,
Sunday, October 13**



[Snohomish CROP Hunger Walk](https://crophungerwalk.org/snohomishwa)



Sign Up To Walk or Donate!

**October 13, 2024
at St. John's Episcopal Church**

SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON

CROP HUNGER WALK
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



[CROPHUNGERWALK.ORG/SNOHOMISHWA](https://crophungerwalk.org/snohomishwa)



Hello friends!

This summer our VBS climbers raised over \$190 for Heifer International! These funds allowed us to send:

1 Promise Basket

- 1 starter flock of ducks
- 1 starter flock of chickens
- 1 starter herd of rabbits
- training and education in their care

1 Hope Basket

- 1 starter flock of chickens
- 1 starter herd of rabbits
- Training and education in their care

1 additional flock of chicks

- Training and education in their care

1 additional flock of ducks

- Training and education in their care

1 hive of honeybees

- bee package
- hive
- box
- training in beekeeping techniques



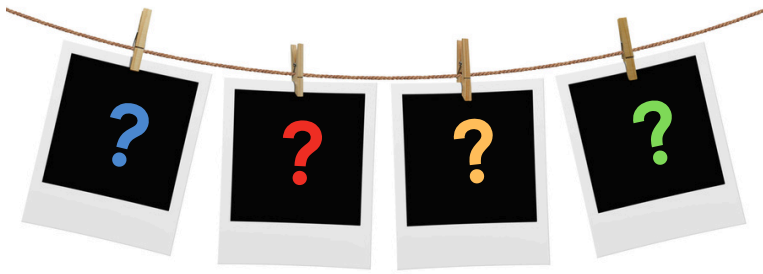
These gifts help lift families out of poverty by providing income, nourishment, pest control, weed control, pollination, and fertilizer. As their income grows, they can provide better housing, medical care, and education for their children.

Did you know that 1 good hen can lay up to 200 eggs a year? Each starter flock has 10-50 chicks, so that means somewhere between 2,000-10,000 eggs a year per flock!

While the challenges of hunger and poverty are even bigger than the challenge of summiting Mount Everest, God's power to provide has been at work multiplying our efforts! Because of a matching donation event, an additional 2 of everything we donated will be sent out to more families in need. These gifts will continue to multiply, as families receiving these gifts will not only be able to provide for themselves, but also pass on the training and extra offspring to others in their communities. Talk about an avalanche of blessings!

With joy and gratitude,

Tia Nieuwsma
Everest VBS Director



Volunteering Photos

The Stewardship Team is putting together a video thanking all our church volunteers. To produce this video, we need photos of our church friends doing their volunteer work. Thus, would you look through your cell phone and/or camera's photo history and Email us any photos that you may have showing our church family members volunteering and doing God's work. Send those photos to M. Jon McKenzie at Email, m.jon.mckenzie@gmail.com, and include a brief description of what is happening in the photos. Jon needs these photos by November 1st, 2024. That will give him time to include the photos in the video. Thank you!



Freedom In Christ



LEARN TO TELL STORIES
FROM THE BIBLE

BIBLICAL STORYTELLING WORKSHOP



With Rev. Ann Lewis
Christ the King Lutheran Church
October 20 - 3:00-4:30 PM

- *free registration with QR code
- *for age 10-adult
- *learn one Bible story by heart
- *prepare to share



Paul invites us to greet one another with grace and peace (Galatians 1:3) How can we do that better? Curious? This summer we acknowledged the challenges we have to welcome others, especially those who think, believe, speak or behave differently than we do. Out of that, there was a call to learn skills that might make us better listeners even when we disagree. Join us starting October 6, with a Bible study of Galatians: Discovering Freedom in Christ, led by Elizabeth Klein.

Join us in Lake View Hall at 9:00AM

Come Ring With Us!



Do you play the piano or guitar?

We are looking for musicians who are willing to teach our Godly Play children some church songs/choruses - both old and new! We would meet in Lake View Hall on Communion Sundays for approximately 25 minutes between the Children's Message and just before communion. Questions? Call Shelagh at 425-422-6100



Dear Church Fellowship,

We have been well-fed by your delicious meals, beautiful cards, helpful prayers, and encouragement as Elizabeth recovers from surgery. We have shed tears of gratitude for the tangible ways you have loved and supported us. Thank you, Thank you for your generosity. We are very, very grateful and look forward to thanking you in person very soon.

Sincerely,
The Klein Family



Our handbell choir is looking for a few more ringers to join in the fun. We typically play for the service on the last Sunday of each month during the program year. Your commitment is only to attend the majority of the rehearsals for each month so if you have travel plans for a particular month, we will cover your position in the choir with someone else. Weekly rehearsals are at a time convenient for the majority of the choir members – usually Thursday afternoons.

Never played before? Not to worry! If you know the difference between a whole note and a quarter note, you likely have a basic understanding of music theory. And if you don't, we will cover the basics with a short course in music theory and reading a music score. Training in ringing technique will be provided. **Rehearsals are Monday afternoons at 2:30.** For more information, contact Sally Hart at 425-312-5720 or Howard Stoess at 509-939-0858.

Join the Building and Grounds Team for a Work Day! October 5 from 9 am to noon

Our lovely church building is big, and the Building and Grounds team is small! Join them at **9 am** on **October 5th** for a work session. You do NOT need special skills! There are jobs for everyone! We need closets organized, some small repairs, batteries checked in smoke alarms, a little painting, etc. Look around at the building, and if something is bugging you, plan to come and help us attend to it. The best part of the experience comes from the fellowship of working alongside others in the church. And of course, we start the morning with **donuts and coffee!**



YOUTH GROUP

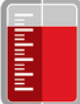
Our Middle and High School students will meet on Wednesdays from 5-7pm. This year we will meet at the Hizzey home located at 1803 Blackman Shores Place, Snohomish. Come with some ideas for Service Projects, Social Ideas, Activities, and Menu suggestions. We will be planning and making our own meals each week (at least in part). We look forward to seeing you and your friends. Questions? Call Shelagh at 425-422-6100.

Thank You!

During the blood drive last September 20th we had nearly 30 donors come through and give a pint of blood.

EVERY **2 SECONDS** 
SOMEONE NEEDS BLOOD

A SINGLE CAR ACCIDENT VICTIM CAN REQUIRE AS MANY AS
100 PINTS OF BLOOD

 APPROXIMATELY **36,000 UNITS**
OF RED BLOOD CELLS ARE NEEDED
EVERY DAY IN THE U.S.

6.8 MILLION
AMERICANS DONATE BLOOD EVERY YEAR

That is an increase from the drive that we did in March. We'll be back in March 2025 and hope to do even more!



More Kids = More Fun!

As you may have noticed, the two new swing sets have been installed! We'd like your help to add more fun play equipment if you'd like to chip in! We want to make kids a priority and add to being a family-friendly church! You may contribute to the **Playground online** or by check with the word 'Playground' in the memo line! Thank you!



A Big Thank You!

Women's Ministries wants to thank all those who supported our Farmer's Markets this summer. It was so much fun to visit with you as you decided on your purchases! You have made our activities possible like the Women's Tea , Book Studies, Bunco, and the Alternative Gift Market items we sell to donate to the Food Bank and other needy groups and activities. You are so generous and you make us smile! Thank you and Blessings from Linda, Melissa, Marge, Jan, Marcia, Rita!!

BUNCO



It's How We Roll!

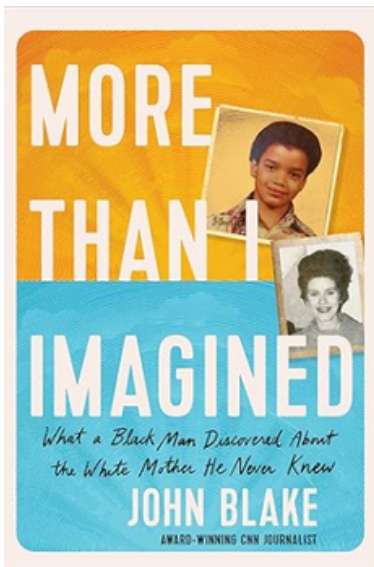
Ladies! Get Ready for Fun!! Women's Ministries would like to invite you to our fall **Bunco Party** on **October 26th!** This is your opportunity to find your fall costumes, special autumn sweaters, your spirit of fun and friendship and look for your favorite snack recipes. Dress up, bring a snack to share and come at 11:00AM to Linda Mueller's home to enjoy the game. There will be lots of prizes as we celebrate fall and the laughter we share. Donations are welcome. Please sign up in the Narthex or call Linda at 425-299-3633. The Women's Ministries Team is looking forward to sharing the fun with you! We can't wait! Linda, Melissa, Jan, Rita, Marcia and Marge. Call Linda for directions.

Women's Book Club

Wednesday- October 9, 2024- *More Than I Imagined: What a Black Man Discovered About the White Mother He Never Knew* by John Blake.

More Than I Imagined is Blake's propulsive true story about how he answered those questions with the help of an interracial church, a loving caregiver's sacrifice, and an inexplicable childhood encounter that taught him the importance of forgiveness.

We will share a potluck salad at the home of Phyllis Mentzos at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, October 9th. Marita Bishop will be our reviewer. Questions? Call Carol at 206 595 9462 or email Carol at cjohnson98290@gmail.com



Are you feeling like things are just not quite the way they should be? Women's Ministries is hosting a **special book study** that will help us talk about that on **November 16th** in the **Lake View Hall**. We will be hosting this day retreat to study Sheila Walsh's book titled: **It's Okay Not to Be Okay : Moving Forward One Day at a Time**. The Day Retreat will begin at 9:00 with a continental breakfast. A soup luncheon will be served at 11:30 and we will adjourn before 3:30. Women's Ministries will purchase the books and make them available in the Narthex where you will sign in. You can attend this study online as well. Be sure that you pick up a book. We look forward to sharing this mini day retreat! Please contact Linda Mueller at 425-299-3633 or other Women's Ministries members with questions. Jan, Marge, Melissa, Rita, Marcia, and Linda will look forward to answering your questions.





Remember in your prayers...

Church Family Members

- Patrick Ingram -treatment for brain lesions.
- Debby Ingram - treatment for multiple myeloma
- Scott Miller - treatment for cancer, and comfort in the passing of his sister, Shelli Dyche
- Kathy, Tom, Rhys, and Eric Hansen - as Kathy is on hospice care
- Kero Ebeid - recovery from accident
- Sara Seiber - treatment for cancer
- Shelagh Hizzey - treatment for cancer
- Caregivers for these and other church family members
- Cathy Haddenham as she recovers from blood clots in her lungs
- Jean Hunter as she recovers from surgery
- Rev. Elizabeth Klein as she recovers from a successful surgery
- Joy and praise for the birth of Carol Mastrofini's and Warren Samech's first grandchild, a girl, Guilia born to their daughter, Kimery and her husband, Andrew.
- Please keep Myrna Lucas in your prayer for internal bleeding.

Homebound

Gary Gloe, Josh Hesseltine, Carolyn Moss, Jerry Williamson, and Bill Barker

Friends of FPCS

- Cindy Duncan - Jan Gavin's niece - underwent gamma knife surgery for a brain tumor related to previously diagnosed kidney cancer
- Tamara Montoya, friend of Lise Pettigrew
- Valerie Christopherson (sister-in-law of Marlie Bilbruck) for cancer metastasized to the liver
- Yvonne Carr (mother-in-law of Marlie Bilbruck) for malignant brain tumor
- Cynthia Sundman, missionary in Peru
- Pastor Moses & Margaret Tanni in Cameroon
- Tall Timber as the Board works to chart a plan for the future and search for a new Executive Director.

Ongoing Prayer Support

- Prayers for peace where there is war and turmoil: Israel, Palestine/Gaza, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, Lebanon, and other places
- All refugees forced to leave their homes due to violence or natural disasters; all those left homeless, and those experiencing hunger
- Global leaders--for wisdom and the will to act justly and to uphold human rights



And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:18



Deacon's Offering:

First Sunday of Every Month

The first Sunday of each month is Deacon's Offering Sunday, and you can put a donation marked "Deacons" in the offering plate or go to SnoPres Online and designate a donation to the Deacon's Fund. The Deacons thank YOU and those we help also thank you!

Need a Hand, Lend a Hand

What is it? This program is an outreach of the Deacons. It provides a means for members to make requests for assistance, or offer assistance in a variety of ways. This could include things such as changing a light bulb in a hard-to-reach area, helping to move a microwave, or maybe helping with a tree that has fallen during a storm. We are in the process of moving the request online, so if you have a need we may be able to assist with, please call/text Chad Bjerkan at 206-920-2837. In the meantime, if you would like to be placed on the list of potential hand-lenders, please let Chad know as well.

Click or Scan



One QR Code to Save Them ALL!

If you're looking for it, you'll probably find a link to it [HERE](#) or scan the QR code. Not finding what you want? Please let the office know:

office@sno-pres.org



Deacon's Transportation Ministry: Do You Need a Ride?

If you can't drive yourself, we can give you a lift. We can take you to a doctor or dentist appointment, to our church on Sunday, or for a church event. When you need a ride and you have run out of options, just call the office and we will see what we can do.
360-568-6498

Church Library

To see a listing of all the books in the library, go to our online catalog:

<https://www.librarything.com/profile/FPCS>
or follow the QR code to our links library.





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Articles Inside...

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- VBS Heifer International Update

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation, providing care-givers to those who request it.

office@snopres.org |
www.snopres.org

360-568-8737

NPS:

Counseling Centers of

Hanna Cho

Director of Music Ministry:

Kate West

Bookkeeper:

Office Manager /

Rev. Elizabeth Klein

Pastoral Assistant

Rev. Charles Lewis

Pastor:

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