

Return Service Requested

SPOKANE VALLEY
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
115 NORTH RAYMOND RD
SPOKANE VALLEY, WA
99206

**Sunday 9am
Traditional Service
Sunday School & Nursery**

Pastor

Rev. Alissa Amestoy
Director of Music
Betsy Pletscher

Director of Hospitality

Margie Manfred

Technical Ministry

Co-Coordinator

Lexi Shay & Logan Tiedt

**Coordinator of
Ministries with
Young People**

Jen Price

**Assoc. Coordinator of
Youth Ministries**

Jacqueline Florian

Nursery Caregiver

Chris Nilles

Church Secretary

Mackenzie Draper

Lay Leader

Zack Reiber



Check out
our website!



Scan our new QR
code for easy
online giving!

Church Office: 509-924-7262

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8 am - 11:30 am

Friday 8 am - 2 pm

Church website: www.spokanevalleychurch.org
Church email: secretary@spokanevalleychurch.org

OUR PURPOSE:

*Spokane Valley United Methodist Church is here
to invite people to: follow Jesus, love others, and
transform the greater community through the
grace of God.*

connections

september 2025

A Letter of Introduction

by Jen Price

My name is Jen Price and I have been given the amazing opportunity to be SVUMC's Coordinator for the Ministry of Young People. I was baptized Methodist, raised Presbyterian, confirmed Missouri Synod Lutheran, then floundered as an adult at a couple "non-denominational" churches prior to very happily "going home to my roots" at Corona United Methodist Church during a particularly challenging season of adulthood just before becoming a mom. Growing up, I was deeply involved in my Lutheran Church. My siblings and I would walk ourselves to all the functions we could, including VBS, Sunday School, Kids Zone, etc. We were in recorder, vocal and hand bell choir. My 8th grade summer, my sister and I along with the other "Joy Ringers" were given the awesome opportunity to be a part of a mission trip that included Evangelism through music at Cambridge University, Disneyland Paris, and Schönkirchen, Germany as well a few other places in Europe. In High School I was a small group leader for our Jr. High Youth. After college, I helped create and facilitate a Special Needs Sunday School program for one of my non-denominational churches, was speaker coordinator for MOPS (now MomCo) in Corona, and I became a small group leader once again for parents of young children while at Corona United Methodist Church.

I love learning and when a topic interests me, I must know all the things. Given this, it came as no surprise that while at Cal State University Fullerton studying to earn my B.S. in Child and Adolescent Development, I didn't just settle on focusing on one concentration. Oh, no. I took it upon myself to complete all the concentrations within my field of study, as well as obtaining an Educational Certificate for Understanding Autism immediately after. I had intended to get my certification in Special Education and teach in moderate to severe special education settings when I officially "grew up," but God had other plans.

I have always wanted to be a mom, and while this dream took a lot more than anticipated to be realized, I knew once (Cont. on pg. 2)



(Cont. from pg. 1) we had Riley and Lucas I wanted as much time as I could have with them. My education became invaluable as it became obvious some children required more than what the wisdom expounded in the "What to Expect Books." I found another calling while working with an Early Interventionist for one of our children. Shortly after completing that program (in record time, according to their interventionist) I began working as an Early Interventionist for other families while also embarking on the mission of "hybrid homeschooling." My children have always had a mix of homeschool and "brick and mortar" learning. I have had the privilege of working as an SSP at East Valley Parent Partnership since shortly after moving to Washington. I get to teach various enrichment classes for K-8th graders at my children's school, and occasionally Riley and Lucas even pick to be in my classes there.

For anyone who would like an opportunity to help the Ministry of Young People whether it be with your time or talents in Nursery, Sunday School, or Youth Group, please contact me via phone or email. Additionally, we are seeking "Spiritual Grandparents" for our Confirmands. I still fondly remember my "Spiritual Grandma" from my Confirmation days; in fact, I was just re-reading some of her cards and prayers she wrote out for me and I still have each small trinket she bestowed on me including my Mustard Seed Pendent and Lutheran Hymnal. Another way you can assist right now is if you have a gently used cube-like storage system or two you are no longer using that can be dropped off at the church, please let me know.

Final fun fact about me, when I was a high schooler, I wanted to study comparative religion at Concordia University and then go on to Seminary. I learned my senior year that women could not have pastoral roles in the LCMS, hence the change of plans. While I now recognize my calling is not Pastoral in nature, I do feel I have been given an opportunity of a life time as your Coordinator for the Ministry of Young People. I look forward to getting to know each of you, especially the young people entrusted in my care through this new position.

- Jen

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PREVIEW

The Heart of Christianity Series
September 7 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost – “The Heart of the Matter: Practice” (Ch. 10)
Deuteronomy 6:1-9 – Pastor Alissa preaching & Communion

September 14 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost – “Heart & Home: Being Christian in an Age of Pluralism” (Ch. 11) – John 14:1-14 – Pastor Alissa preaching

September 21 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost – Singing Sunday Celebration Service
Led by Betsy Pletscher, Director of Music – Ministry that Matters Moment: Shalom Ministries

New Series: The Heart of Neighboring
September 28 – 17th Sunday after Pentecost – “Taking the Great Commandment Seriously” – Mark 12:28-34 - Pastor Alissa preaching

Special Events:

- 9/1 6:30 pm Sarah Circle
- 9/8 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Youth
6:30 pm Trustees
- 9/9 9:00 am Huddle
- 9/11 11:00 am Rachel Circle
- 9/16 10:00 am SPRC (tentative)
10:00 am Touched by Cancer
2:30 pm Finance Meeting
- 9/22 6:00 pm Coordinating Council
- 9/23 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Youth
9:00 am Huddle

Weekly Events:

- Thursday
9:00 am Thursday Crew
- Saturday
10:00 am Choir Practice
- Sunday
9:00 am Traditional Service
9:00 am Children's Sunday
School & Nursery

SEPTEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

- 9/10 Cliff & Sharon Maxey
- 9/12 Gerald & Madelyn Bafus
Ron & Leanne Pope
- 9/26 Betsy & Tom Pletscher

BIRTHDAYS

- 9/5 Britny Grovom
- 9/7 Cayde Gebhart
- 9/14 Susan Ingalls
- 9/16 Sue McGovney
- 9/17 Kiyah Young-Wilson
- 9/18 Luke Henderson
- 9/19 Georgette Rogers
- 9/21 Mick Palanuck
- 9/28 Nancy Olds
- 9/29 Lowell Brocklehurst

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY CLASS

Disciple Bible Study has been highly regarded for over 30 Years and remained the number one choice for some of the most vibrant congregations in the world—transforming the lives of more than two million participants! Disciple is a program of disciplined Bible study aimed at developing strong Christian leaders. The study gives the Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as a revelation of God. Disciple draws upon the work of scholars, the personal Bible reading and study of the participant, and dynamic group discussion to aid understanding of the Bible.

Disciple 3 "Remember Who You Are - the Prophets and the Letters of Paul" is this year's study. Disciple 3 is a journey through the Books of the Prophets and the Books of Paul. The prophets were the mouthpiece of God and carried God's warning to the People of Israel whenever they strayed from His loving care. Paul's letters reveal more about God and what God wants us to do. This study is a detail look into Paul's letters.

Disciple 3 will begin on September 10, Wednesday, with Orientation from 9:30 - 10:30 in Room 115. The first lesson will start at 9:30 in Room 115. Each class is two hours running from 9:30 - 11:30 am on Wednesday. It is not too late to sign up for the class at either the Connect Desk or calling Madelyn at 509-869-8213. The cost of the Study Manual is \$40. We'll see you there!

Small Group Ministry Fair!
Sept 7th right after church in Room 115. Hear from group members what it means to them to be part of a small group. Check out what the groups are studying. And snag some coffee or lemonade and a cookie or two! As the saying goes...Be there or be square!!!
- Lois Cwiek

To my dear church family:
Please know how much your prayers, cards, phone calls, and treats meant to me while I was home during my illness. I could feel your prayers & love. Can't wait to be back to full strength. Christ's love to all.
- Nancy Larson



Celebrate with us
on September 28th!

Join us for a day of special events celebrating
our call to be Good Neighbors!

9am Worship – New Series: "The Heart of Neighboring"

4pm – All-ages Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt
beginning in the Church Parking Lot

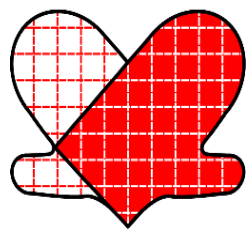
4:30pm – Dinner for those 21+ at 45degree Brewhouse
or Youth Pizza Party in the Youth Room for kids

For more information contact Margie Manfred:
Margie.manfred@outlook.com

SEPTEMBER WORD SEARCH

- Pizza
- Mini Golf
- Neighbor
- Telephone
- Newspaper
- Coffee
- Grandparents
- Baseball
- Strudel
- Dance
- Cheeseburger
- Weather
- Friend
- Equinox
- Cherry
- Musical
- Sourdough
- Candle
- Pencil
- Hummingbird
- Gratitude
- School
- Community
- Apple

R	Q	C	H	E	R	R	Y	I	M	E	J	S	R	P	L	E
E	B	G	L	V	D	X	T	S	E	B	Z	I	E	H	Q	P
H	M	P	D	N	E	I	R	F	Y	D	K	N	L	U	W	A
T	P	Z	B	K	L	S	F	Q	M	T	C	H	I	M	O	G
A	V	J	H	M	R	O	B	H	G	I	E	N	D	M	E	R
E	M	R	G	T	C	L	S	W	L	D	O	B	Z	I	Y	A
W	I	H	U	K	R	A	T	O	F	X	P	D	H	N	V	T
Z	N	B	O	X	G	J	N	R	L	T	R	E	S	G	F	I
T	I	Y	D	A	N	C	E	Y	A	L	N	Y	K	B	L	T
E	G	S	R	H	Q	P	R	B	T	H	A	Z	Z	I	P	U
L	O	K	U	J	A	U	A	D	E	I	L	B	W	R	N	D
E	L	M	O	P	B	Z	P	L	S	B	N	V	E	D	Z	E
P	F	X	S	T	R	U	D	E	L	F	X	U	G	S	K	L
H	T	W	U	K	P	N	N	M	D	O	J	D	M	V	A	O
O	E	F	B	S	A	W	A	L	A	C	I	S	U	M	I	B
N	Z	R	Q	C	F	U	R	O	X	Y	S	C	H	O	O	L
E	H	M	T	Z	R	E	G	R	U	B	E	S	E	E	H	C



Helping Hands

serving one another in love
GALATIANS 5:13

*"Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can."*
John Wesley

Thank you

This September, SVUMC is collecting **coffee** (ground or whole bean), **juice boxes**, **sugar** (brown or white), **honey**, and **pancake syrup** for Shalom Ministries at the Connect Desk.



Thank you to everyone who donated baby wipes and tissues for Broadway Elementary School! Children and teachers will be glad to have them once school starts up again this month!



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

The Inland Missional District of United Women in Faith Annual Gathering will take place on **September 20** beginning at 8:45 and going into the early afternoon. All women of the church are invited to attend. Spokane Valley UWF is hosting so we will be meeting at our very own church. The cost is \$20 which includes lunch. The focus is climate justice, and our speaker is Julia Petersen from the Evergreen Foundation. You don't want to miss out. The cost at the door will be \$25. Registration forms are at the Connect Desk. Please consider attending this informative event. You don't have to drive far!



VOLUNTEER FOR THE



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21
SIGN UP AT THE
CONNECT DESK OCT. 5, 12,
& 19!

SAVE THE DATES IN OCTOBER!



Ways to get involved

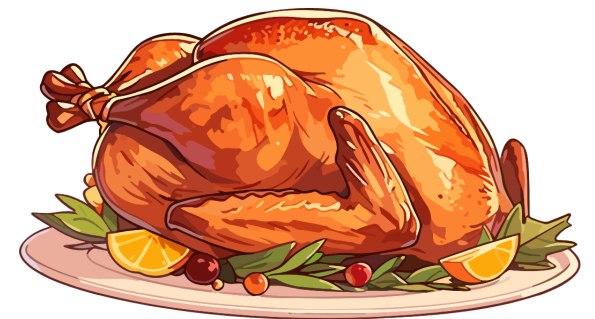
Esther Circle will meet 9/9 at 12:30 pm in Room 115. Contact Sue McGovney, 509-924-1555.

Rachel Circle will meet 9/11 at 11 am in the FPR. Contact Susan Henderson, 509-924-5192.

Sarah Circle will meet 9/8 at 6:30 pm in the FPR. Contact Robin Gregory, 509-443-5953.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet 9/8 and 9/22 at 10 am in the FPR. Contact Jodi Mackin, 509-922-4074.

The next Book Club will meet October 12, hosted by Esther Circle. The book is *The Book Woman From Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson. All women of the church are invited to join us. A copy of the book is in the UWF reading room next to the Chapel.



Mark your calendars for this year's Harvest Dinner, coming November 1! More information to come in October's newsletter.

MISSION & SERVICE WILL BE HOSTING THE MISSION COMMUNITY OUTREACH BENEFIT LUNCH

OCTOBER 14, 2025
Sign up to help at the Connect Desk
September 28, October 5, and 12!



Get ready for another **Cinnamon Roll Sale on September 14** following service! Proceeds will go to the Jamaa Letu Orphanages in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

