



White Salmon United Methodist Church

Newsletter

Introducing Our Newsletter.
Volume 1 Issue 1

Congregational Gatherings

<u>Sunday September 6, 2026</u> Message: Rev. Sandy Johnson Do Unto Other Series: The Polarization within: Compassion Liturgist: Tom H. Music: David Kelly	<u>Sunday September 13, 2026</u> Message: Rev. Sandy Johnson Do Unto Other Series: Listen More, Speak Less: Humility Liturgist: Alena K Music: David Kelly	<u>Sunday September 20, 2026</u> Welcome Guest Speaker Message: Rev. Donna Pritchard Do Unto Other Series: Listen More, Speak Less: Humility Liturgist: Mary K Music: AV Team
<u>Sunday September 27, 2026</u> Message: Rev. Sandy Johnson Do Unto Other Series: Malice Toward None: Love Isaiah 11:6-9 Liturgist: Geraldine L. Music: AV Team		

Calendar of Events and Happenings

Wednesday	September 9	UWF Meeting and Tea	Time: 11:00:00 AM
Saturday	September 12	Huckleberry Fest Parade	Contact Rev. Sandy if you would like to join.
Monday	September 21	AD Board Meeting	Time: 1:00 PM

If you have an Event or Happening and you would like to include it in our monthly newsletter please contact the office

Volunteers Needed:

Our church is in the Huckleberry Festival Parade in Bingen, September 12 at 11 a.m. We need volunteers to hand out invite cards that share information about our church and also a huckleberry pie recipe. If you can walk the parade route or prefer to ride in the truck, WE NEED YOU! Line up is at 10:30, parade at 11 a.m. Check in is on Jefferson St and Maple, the route ends at Daubenspeck Park, approximately 10 blocks.

Huckleberry Festival Booth:

We will have a booth at the Huckleberry festival on Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and need your help to hand out information about our church, share our frozen otter pops and huckleberry pie recipe! Help is needed Friday morning at 10 a.m. to set up the pop up and deliver tables/chairs as well as 5 p.m. Saturday to take it all down. IF you can help an hour or two, please reach out to Pastor Sandy at 702-461-2590 (text or call) or sandystrattonjohnson@gmail.com



Friday, Saturday, Sunday September 11-13, 2026

ENTERTAINMENT

Free Entry / Free Parking

Friday, September 11, 2026

Huckleberry Pies

by the slice or buy the pie

Variety of Vendors

Dance Floor

Beer & Wine Garden

Famous Bratwurst

5:00 p.m. 9/11 Remembrance and Moment of Silence

5:15 p.m. Harmony of the Gorge

6:00 p.m. Carl Schwitzer and CFS 120

8:00 p.m. Cascade High

Saturday, September 12, 2026

12:00 p.m. Gorge Winds

1:00 p.m. Gretta Seabird

2:00 p.m. Scot and Rebecca

4:00 p.m. Wasco Bros

5:00 p.m. Carl Schwitzer and CFS 120

6:00 p.m. Oregon Reptile Views

7:00 p.m. Paradise of Samoa

8:00 p.m. California Soul Review



Parade Sat 11:00

from Maple on SR14
to Daubenspeck Park

Ape Cat Hunt

Sat afternoon in
our downtown
businesses

KIDS ACTIVITIES

While there will be ongoing entertainment and options like the Bouncy Houses throughout the weekend, we also have some specific events for youth.

▼ **Friday 5 – 6:30PM – Rattle Can Art Contest – Entry Fee:** \$3 per kid (8 to 16yrs old) \$5 for 17+ (must pay to participate)

Categories: Kids / Adults

Unleash your creativity in our annual spray paint showdown!

***Pre-registration** Suggested

***Check-in:** 5:00 PM sharp

***Painting Time:** 5:00 – 6:30 PM

***Voting Begins:** 6:30 PM

***Winners Announced:** 7:15 PM

You've got 90 minutes to create your masterpiece—bring your best!



► **Saturday @ 11 AM – Parade – All Are Welcome!** Registration start at 9am. Application in the Form Section.

Walk, Bike, Ride.... we want you to be a part of our Huckleberry Parade. Pretend you are a berry and wear purple head to toe!

► **Saturday 1 – 4pm** Kid's Activities Starting at 1pm **Pie in Face, 1:30pm Three Legged Race, 2:00pm Children's Coin Dig, 2:30pm Watermelon Eating Contest, 3:00pm Hula Hoop Challenge, and at 3:30pm Egg Race**

All (but the pie in face) are located **North of the playground.**

► **Saturday 7:00PM – Jordan Reptiles – A crowd favorite!** (most of the crowd, anyways) We realize this is late, BUT reptiles do not do well in the heat of the day.

New Sermon Series:



Do Unto Others began August 30. This series is a five-week series that will cover the topics of kindness, compassion, humility, respect and love for all. The series comes from Rev. Marcia Mc Fee at the Worship Design Studio. Rev. McFee has designed many sessions of worship for our UMC General Conference and is well known in the UMC. Here is her summary of the series:

“Our world seems to be consumed with division—often typified in the colors red and blue. Rather than stay in our monochromatic silos, the Golden Rule in scripture challenges us to engage in conversation and seek to create whatever common good we can with our relatives, friends, and neighbors who we might consider to be on the “other side” politically and ideologically. As we attempt to come together, the idea is not that we are obliterating either one or trying to change each other, but rather we discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to make the world a better place. The “purple space” is where we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for one another and for the good of all the world, no matter what.”

Please join us starting August 30 through September 27 for this encouraging series of messages.



The Front Porch with Rev. Sandy Johnson

Words for the Journey

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! I pray you are well and are enjoying the cooler temperatures and first signs of fall. September always reminds me of “Back to School”, even now when I am long past my school days, as are my children. There is always something exciting about starting a new school year. The high hopes to make new friends, reunite with old ones and to work hard to achieve the best academic success. Usually by Thanksgiving I was ready for a break and my enthusiasm had waned.

Isn't that like many things we do in life? When we start something new, we are often eager and excited to jump in with both feet!! Sometimes this waning of excitement can happen with our faith journey. It is easy to get comfortable with the rhythm of life and it may cause us to be lulled into a sense of security without realizing that as a result we have lost our passion for Christ.

In Revelations 3:15-16 Jesus says, 15 “I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. 16 So, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth.” These are serious words coming from Jesus but they are to remind us that being “lukewarm” or spiritually indifferent is not what we are called to. In the ancient world, water was either hot (purifying) or cold (refreshing), but lukewarm water was useless and even unpleasant.

The idea that Jesus would “spit us out of his mouth” should cause us to look inside and see where perhaps we have grown lukewarm. What can we do to be on fire for Christ again? I would suggest that we do the things we know to do to bring revival to our souls. Reading scripture, participating in bible study, engaging in worship on Sunday morning and throughout the week each time you feel God's presence. Each time I turn onto my street and see the majesty of Mt. Hood I am reminded of all the ways God leads me and protects me.

If there is anything I can do to support you on your journey, please know I am here for you. It is my prayer that we would all find our passion for Christ, for being his hands and feet in our community and know deep in our souls that we are God's beloved, always. May it be so!

Giving That Shapes Tomorrow

Changes coming to collecting during worship.

Why is collecting an offering during worship important?

We are making some changes to our worship service and one of them is that we began collecting our offering during worship. We all understand the importance of giving to God and know from Genesis 28:10-22 that we are asked to give one-tenth of our income to God.

"The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, offered an even higher standard for giving, and for our entire approach to living. It's found in Wesley's sermon, "The Use of Money," which is among the Standard Sermons included in our doctrinal standards.

"Here is Wesley's own brief summary which is the foundation of our teaching: "Gain all you can.... save all you can... give all you can."... Indeed, Wesley says, "Render unto God, not a tenth, not a third, not half, but all that is God's." For some of us, after earning and saving all we can, while caring for our family's basic needs, there may not be much left over. For others, there may be much, indeed. Whatever that is, we say, give it all! 1

"The United Methodist Church, in its Book of Discipline, emphasizes tithing as a "minimum goal of giving" and encourages local churches to find creative ways to become "tithing congregations with an attitude of generosity." The church asks all those being ordained to "teach and model generous Christian giving with a focus on tithing as God's standard of giving. "

This is probably not new to many of you, and you may be asking why is it important to "collect" an offering during worship, setting out plates at the door has worked well for a long time. During Covid we were very careful passing things around and that included the offering plate. We are post-Covid now and see to return to the tradition where our offering is an act of worship.

When we give to God through our tithes and offerings, we honor God as it says in Proverbs 3:9, "Honor the Lord with your substance (wealth) and with the first fruits of all your produce." Collecting the offering also reminds us that all we have is God's and giving a portion to God unites the congregation in that common goal. In the beginning of the Christian Church people would bring bread, wine, and other food items as well as financial gifts. The community worked together for the greater good of the community. Finally, I believe that God wants us to thank him for the blessings he has give us and to offer our financial gifts to God to be used to God's glory, through our local church.

I know that many of us do our giving through electronics, or by giving once a month, instead of every week. That can lead some to feel uncomfortable that as the offering is being collected you don't have anything to put in the plate. I would encourage everyone to give as God calls you and if that's electronically, know that God sees your giving and it doesn't matter what others may think. You will never see me put something into the plate because my husband and I choose to mail our offering directly to the church every week so that I don't ever "forget" or miss an offering because I am away.

Let us respond as we see in 2 Corinthians 9:7; " 7 Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." May it be so! Rev. Sandy Johnson

Message from the Finance Team



Image by pixbay

A treasurer I knew once gave their treasurer's report like this: "We earned a little money, spent a little money, and have a little left over." Our report is similar however we are currently experiencing a time when we have more expenses than income. Our budget has increased with a part-time pastor, and we have had several unexpected expenses at the parsonage to fix the drain and the AC. We are grateful for the donations we received for these repairs. This is not uncommon in churches and a situation that your leaders are keeping a close eye upon. We wish to be transparent and would ask that anyone who is able to increase their giving, to please do so, only after prayerfully considering what it is that God is calling you to do. The Ad Council is looking at ways to generate revenue; ways we can cut our expenses and are committed to working diligently to make our financial situation better. We strive to have a balanced budget and will work to achieve that goal, with your help we will achieve it. We have investments that will keep us solvent through these challenging times but using those funds is not a long-term solution.



UWF (United Women of Faith)

strengthen our church and community

**Wednesday, July 22,
Lunch and Learn with Joy Primm**



We had a potluck lunch and heard about her mission in Hong Kong from Deaconess/Missionary Joy Primm. Small group, but good food and good information. Joy was delightful and we collected enough money to be a covenant church for her for a year.

**Wednesday, August 26,
Providing Cookies**

Thank you all for providing cookies for the Whitson staff at the start of school. Thanks to Liz for helping plate the cookies and deliver them to the school. Sandy helped deliver also. The principal couldn't be more appreciative. He was absolutely gushing about how much we care about his staff. The superintendent was also there and met Sandy. Blessings, Mary



Our Next UWF meeting

WEDNESDAY, September 9, 2026

11:00

BRING A FAMILY HEIRLOOM TO SHARE ITS HISTORY
OR PHOTOS OF YOUR ANCESTORS



Devotions

Business meeting

Heirlooms/Photos

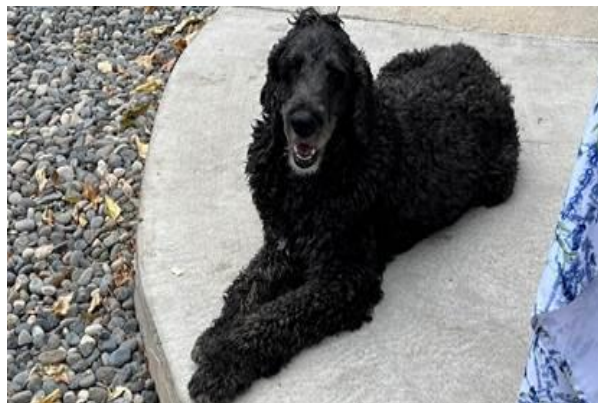
Tea Luncheon

In Memoriam

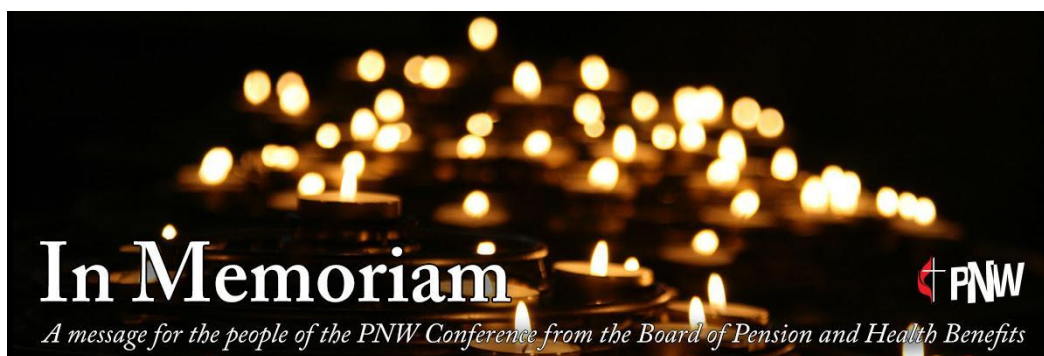
Former Pastor Earl Lane's Interment Service

Trout Lake Abbey, officiated by Ven. Kozen Sampson and Rev. Sandy Johnson

Saturday August 29,



Rev. Earls Dog, Now resides at Trout Lake Abbey



Bonnie Dyer Frey

September 8, 1949 to August 25, 2026

Reverend Bonnie Dyer Frey, retired elder and beloved spouse of Donald Frey, died August 25, 2026. She is survived by Donald Frey at [331 Cedar Lane, Longview, WA 98632](https://www.google.com/maps/place/331+Cedar+Lane,+Longview,+WA+98632), as well as two children, Corrie Frey (Seattle) and Robert Frey (Orting).

Rev. Bonnie Frey became a probationary member in 1991 and a full elder in 1993. She served the following churches in the PNW Conference: Rochester-Oakville, Washougal, Castle Rock, Kalama and White Salmon. She retired from the conference in 2011.

Per Bonnie's request there will be no memorial service.

Conference Board of Pensions • August 28, 2026



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Message from Pacific Northwest Relief Supply Coordinator

Kevin Hamilton

I would like to thank the White Salmon (WSUMC) congregation for their support for building disaster kits in the past. You will be happy to know we delivered 100 Hygiene, 95 female hygiene and 65 soot kits to the Spokane fires from both WSUMC and GUMC. We also took about 70 Hygiene and 30 Soot Kits from Hermiston, OR and Clarkston, ID.

The kits were very much needed and appreciated. There were approx 800 homes and commercial structures destroyed. They will now begin the long recovery process. Pacific Northwest Emergency Response Teams are beginning to form for cleanup work.

Having made these deliveries has made our inventory of kits down to zero.

I am asking the White Salmon UMC if they would consider making more Kits. Goldendale UMC has committed to making more kits.

Attached is what WSUMC made in the past. They were Hygiene Kits. The biggest need right now is for Soot Kits. Both are attached

Thanks for your continued support.

Kevin Hamilton
Pacific Northwest Relief
Supply Coordinator

[UMCOR HYGIENCE KIT](#)

[SOOT KITS](#)

If anyone is interested in making these, please contact Pastor Sandy.

[Visit our White Salmon United Methodist Church Website](#)

© White Salmon United Methodist Church
PO Box 934 | 341 N. Main Avenue
White Salmon WA 98672