



GROWING DEEPER IN FAITH
REACHING WIDER IN LOVE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SNOHOMISH

The Light | July | 2024

Pastors Corner - Guest Edition!

Do you feel welcome?
Do your friends feel welcome?
What can we do to welcome each other more fully?

Do you wish you had a place where you could explore our faith and grow together with good conversation through stories, questions, and reflections? To this end, we'd like to invite you to join us for a Sunday morning Bible study.

Paul wrote to the Church in its early formation:

"In Christ's family there can be no division into Jew and non-Jew, slave and free, male and female. Among us you are all equal. That is, we are all in a common relationship with Jesus Christ. Also, since you are Christ's family, then you are Abraham's famous 'descendant,' heirs according to the covenant promises." Galatians 3:28-29



The letter to the Galatians remarks on the most controversial divisions in the times it was written. Today, we have those and more. But divisions are a major disruption that Jesus came to address and heal. How do we welcome people who are different than we are, understanding that all are welcome into God's family through Jesus? We are excited to offer a continuation of our classes on bias, and examining how it keeps us from maturing in Christ.

Each Sunday @ 9:30-10:15 am, July 14- Aug 18th, Rev. Elizabeth Klein will host a series of conversations on different kinds of bias including:

- Welcoming Community:
Story: Jesus forms community with his followers
- Welcoming Comfort and Catastrophe:
Story: Paul, John Mark, & Barnabas: early divisions and reconciliation in the new Church
- Welcoming Conspiracy & Competency & Confirmation:
Story: Ruth and the immigrants' journey, Part 1
- Welcoming Economic Differences
Story: Ruth, Part 2

Join us for one or all of them! We will meet in the Conference Room, (down the hall on the right), with hosts, snacks, and food for the soul. We are hoping to record the sessions and have them available for those who are interested.

Please consider joining us!



SESSION Business in June

From the June 3, 2024 session meeting:

- The Interim Pastor Search Committee has been chosen from Session, as prescribed by Presbytery. Dede Babcock, as a member of Personnel, will chair. Carole Van Loo, Erin Ramirez, and Marita Bishop round out the team. Rev. Elizabeth Klein and our Executive Presbyter, Laura Teraski, will advise.
- A job description has been approved and salary proposal chosen. Laura will choose pastors for us to interview, but we are able to add others if we desire. The committee is drawing up interview questions, and would welcome any that members of the congregation wish to suggest.
- The Session covets your prayers for the process as we trust the Lord's leading for this very vital position that will prepare us for the visioning and selection of the full-time pastor.
- Ten new members have been approved by Session and were welcomed by the church body on June 23: Mike and Carmi Danks, Jim and Judy (Richardson) Fox, Riley Boerger, Mary Polly, Kelly Snow, Joyce Brenden, and Marty and Marti King. They are a blessing to our congregation and we are eager to get to know them!
- The need for a Director of Youth and Family Ministry position, either full or part time, is being monitored by Session, but probably will be delayed until an interim is in place. Shelagh, Charlie, Cathy, and Jennifer are doing a great job with the youth at present!

Respectfully submitted,
Marita Bishop



Dear Parents:

Send your kids on an icy expedition!

At Everest VBS, kids embark on the coolest adventure of the summer! Everest VBS is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.) Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear *that* phrase a lot!

Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us at Summit Celebration each day at 11:05 AM, a daily exploration of God's mighty power you won't want to miss. So mark these dates on your calendar:

August 19-23

The fun starts at 9:00 AM and will end at 12:00 PM.
Call (360) 568-6498 to register your children for this life-changing adventure!

Or register online at:



<https://vbspro.events/p/snopres-everest-2024>

Sincerely,

Tia Nieuwsma

Your Everest VBS Director



On Sunday, June 23rd we officially welcomed new members to the congregation. These individuals participated in the New Member Class, have been examined by the Session, and were introduced to the congregation as members during the service. They are:

Riley Boerger

Joyce Brenden

Mike and Carmi Danks

Marty and Marti King

Mary Polley

Kelly Snow

Jim and Judy (Richardson) Fox

Please join us in welcoming them to our church family!

Schedule time with your family this Summer at Tall Timber!

Tall Timber is waiting for your family, your friends, your group, or event! Cabins and campsites are ready. Enjoy nearby hiking, golfing, boating, horseback riding, or just snooze amidst the view. Lake Wenatchee, Leavenworth shops, shows, and the new Mountain Coaster are all easily accessible. Contact info@talltimber.org to check availability.

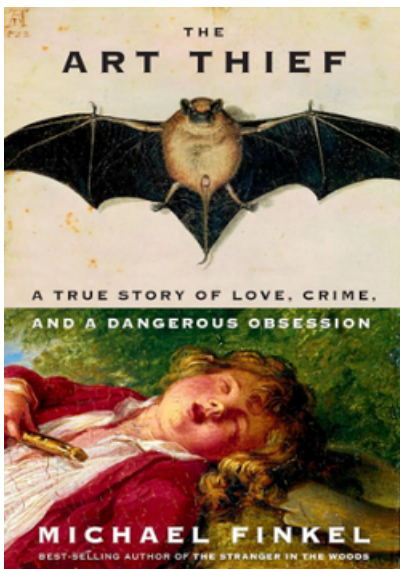




On June 1, ten folks from First Pres Snohomish joined 8 other area churches to march in the 2nd Annual Pride Parade. It felt so good to be part of that joyful celebration and to move closer into Jesus' call to love and include and support his family...us. Plans are already underway to enhance next year's participation. Please make plans to join us.

Upcoming July Dates of Note:

- 4 - Community Kitchen
- Office closed for Independence Day
- 7 - Communion
- 10 - Women's Book Club
- 13 - Building & Grounds Work Day
- 15 - Session Meeting
- 20 - Light Deadline



Women's Ministry Book Club:

Our July book club selection is "The Art Thief: A True Story of Love, Crime, and a Dangerous Obsession" by Michael Finkel. This is the true story of master thief Stéphane Breitwieser, who carried out more than two hundred heists over nearly eight years—in museums and cathedrals all over Europe. We will share a potluck salad at the home of Anne Sterley at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, July 10. Lori Prins will be our reviewer. Questions? Call Carol at 206-595-9462 or email Carol at cjohnson9829O@gmail.com.

Congratulations!

Congratulations and prayers of support to Tholen Blasko and Arianna Calvin who were married on June 22.

They now reside in Mt. Vernon. Tholen works as a Fisheries Technician for Puget Sound Energy and Arianna soon begins a position as a Veterinarian in Bellingham.



We've been so blessed by you all since we joined this church community! Thank you for the lovely baby shower for Lilah and Oliver.

It was such a special event and our families loved being included too.

All your gifts were so adorable, thoughtful and generous! We're glad that Lilah has this community to support and encourage her in life and faith as she grows up. Thank you, again!

-Laurel & Jared Smith

We would like to thank you for the wonderful baby shower! We will write to each of you individually but, as you can imagine, that task has been slowed down by our newborn!

We are so overwhelmed by your kind words and generous gifts that fill our hearts and our home making our transition into parenthood a seamless one. Blessings to you all!

With love and gratitude,
Esther and Daniel and Oliver Lewis





WELCOME

TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SNOHOMISH



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REACHING WIDER IN LOVE.**

Website Update!

www.SnoPres.org has received a facelift! The team of Erin Ramirez, Becky Kiser, Andrew Lewis, and Kate West have spent several weeks building a new and (hopefully) more user-friendly website. Links that will take you directly to the church CCB page as well as to the Giving page appear on every page for easy access. Take a look and share it with your friends who may be looking for a church home!

**Welcome
to our new
website!**

We hope you like the change. 😊

Access SnoPres Online, Giving,
& Livestreams at the top of your screen.



On behalf of the Women's Ministry Team

Thank You

to all who worked so hard to help make this year's Ladies Tea a success! Please stop by and see the bulletin board out in the Narthex outside Lake View Hall. If you see pictures that you would like to have a copy of, please let the office or Jill Sahlstrom know and we'll get them to you.





Congratulations to our 2024 High School and College Graduates

High School Graduates:

Abby Bowles Aiden Gamble
Ella Pettyjohn

College Graduates:

Talea Blasko Kayla Johnson

Master's Degree:

Tholen Blasko Madeleine Gamble
Jessica Trimble Drake Wilson

Doctorate Degree:

Gabby Wilson



More Kids = More Fun!

Our deserted playground will soon have swings, but we need your help to add more fun activities. Please make kids a priority! You may contribute to the **Playground online** or by check with the word 'Playground' in the memo line! Thank you.

Sanctuary Refresh Update

Sanctuary Refresh Team is on the move! We met with Bart Shorack, architect, and looked at creative drawings to make the sanctuary more attractive and the space better used. Our next meeting is July 1 to look at some modifications to his initial work.

Building and Grounds Team has also been active, finding a Spanish-speaking congregation in Arlington that can happily use the pews we do not need. Take a look: you will see the surface of the sanctuary floor polished by the time you read this. Repositioning some of the pews will be the task to follow.

On Saturday, July 13th, we will be meeting from 9:00 to noon to get the pews moved back into the sanctuary and start the process of getting ready to move Sunday Morning Worship from Lake View Hall back into the sanctuary. We will need 4-5 people to help get the pews moved. Please watch your email for a Needs Request or talk with Cris Kennedy if you are available to help.

Always eager to hear your thoughts, chat with a team member, Michael Prihoda, Skip Fuller, Rita or Howard Stoess, Jim Kassebaum, Cris Kennedy, Chris Harkness, or Jon Bishop.



Church Family Members

- Curt Green - loss of his mother, Ginny
- Cris Kennedy - loss of her sister, Cindy
- Debby Ingram - treatment for multiple myeloma
- Scott Miller - treatment for cancer
- Kathleen Hansen - treatment for cancer
- Bill Gavin - for ongoing healing
- Sara Seiber - treatment for cancer
- Elizabeth Gamble - cancer treatment completed
- Jason Gamble - loss of his father
- Shelagh Hizzey - cancer treatment
- Alex DeSoto and Lynn Schilatý and family - loss of son, Eli, and Lynn's brother-in-law, Gary
- Caregivers for these and other church family members

Homebound

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

Friends of FPCS

- Shelli Dyche, Scott Miller's sister, in treatment for cancer
- Fran Ortmeyer--loss of husband John
- Tamara Montoya, friend of Lise Pettigrew
- Sue Davis' daughter-in-law, Tammy, with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- 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, doing ministry in Cameroon amidst civil war
- Tall Timber Camp as they prepare for the summer camp season in the midst of looking for an Interim Executive Director

Ongoing Prayer Support

- Prayers for peace where there is war and turmoil: Palestine/Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, Lebanon, Haiti
- 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

For those of you who would like to send a card or a note of encouragement to Kero Ebeid following his motorcycle accident, those cards can be sent to:

Kero Ebeid

5815 139th PL NE, Marysville, WA. 98271

He is home now at his grandparents as his parents' home is made wheelchair accessible.

Greetings dear FPCS family,

We thank you for all of your prayers and words of encouragement since Bill's fall over these past 6 months.

The journey has been a challenge but, with the assistance of our family, your support and prayers, we are now in our new abode - Chateau Bothell and open for visitors.

Blessings to one and all,

Bill & Lois LaBarge

9911 W. Riverside Dr. #3022, Bothell, 98011
360-618-3013

Thank
you! :) 



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Articles Inside...

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office@snoPRES.org | www.snoPRES.org

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

Pastor: Rev. Charles Lewis
Pastoral Assistant Rev. Elizabeth Klein
Office Manager / Bookkeeper: Kate West
Director of Music Ministry: Hanna Cho
Counseling Centers of NPS: 360-568-8737

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