



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

The Light | August | 2025

Pastor's Corner

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel." Philippians 1:3-5

Thank-you for how you are partnering together in the ministry God is doing in our midst, and in how God will lead FPCS to serve together in the future. Here is just a partial update of all the wonderful ways people are serving and ways for you to participate in each of these:

Director of Music Ministry Search – Elizabeth Klein, Anna Thelen, Heather Shropshire, Phil Prins, Jason Gamble, Chris Harkness, and Curt Johnson are beginning a search for who God will bring to lead our Music Ministry. This has been a historic strength of the ministry at FPCS and I look forward to seeing who God will bring next. Please be praying for this team.

History and Hopes Gatherings – These have been meaningful times of reflecting on our past in order to better prepare for where God will lead us in ministry together next. The last one of these gatherings will be on August 10 from 12-2pm with a BBQ lunch provided. If you haven't attended one of these yet, please join us! RSVP to Kate (office@snopres.org).

New Members – Please take some time to get to know the new members to our church: Rita Hardin, Laney Newton, Dick and Nancy Walker, Steve and Pam Willis, Tom and Kay Staggs. They are wonderful people who are already enriching our life together as a church family.

Nominating Committee Work – Mary Beth Kurtenbach, Marita Bishop, Linda Mueller, Chris Harkness, and Carlene Crossman are prayerfully considering nominations for the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) as well as Elder and Deacon Nominations. You will have an opportunity to vote this Fall on who is nominated for these positions.

Mission Study Team - At this month's Session, we will be approving a group of people who will be leading us in reflecting on the potential directions God will focus us in ministry over the next 3-5 years. This information will be given to the PNC to guide the type of pastor they nominate. To see a timeline of all the activities involved in calling a pastor, please see our website page about this [FPCS Transition](#).

Facility Maintenance and Sanctuary Improvements – Cris Kennedy and the Building and Grounds Team, and Jon Bishop and the Sanctuary Refresh Team have been busy working on numerous projects. Please be praying for them as they work on all the details that come with these various projects.
(cont. on page 2)

And there are lots more people who have been serving in meaningful ways like, a VBS with local churches, Eagle Wings Pool Party, Prayers and Squares prayer quilts, Women's Ministry, Farmers Market, and Weekly Worship just to name a few more. Please take time to thank the people who are serving and celebrate what God is doing in and through our church family!

With Gratitude and Joy,

Tom Dabasinskas

Interim Pastor

tom@snopres.org

P.S. If you haven't yet attended one of the History and Hopes Gatherings, please email Kate in the church office by Tuesday, August 5th. We'd love to have you join us.



Our Summer 2025

New Members!

Take a moment to welcome them
and introduce yourselves!



Tom & Kay Staggs



Dick & Nancy Walker



Laney Newton



Pam & Steve Willis



Rita Hardin

Morning Star Development



August 13, 7:00-8:30PM

Lake View Hall

The Mission Ministry Team invites you to come and hear how God continues to work in Afghanistan through the ministry of **Morning Star Development**, providing education for young people, health education for pregnant families, hope for addicts, and more.

Jon and Marita Bishop have been there and have seen the difference happening.

Come and hear!

This is a dessert potluck, so bring something to share!



"Many thanks to all of you for your generous and cheerful hearts! The Eagle Wings participants and their folks (caregivers and families) had a wonderful celebration, indeed!"



We Welcome Back Rev. Kathy Giske



Rev. Kathy Giske is an Australian-Greek born in Cairo, Egypt. Living in an international community with its many cultures and languages prepared Kathy for her life's work. She began her career serving in trade relations with the Australian Embassy in Athens, Greece. Her work involved travel to the Middle East where she witnessed first-hand the spiritual hunger and physical needs of the people. Motivated by God's compassionate heart, Kathy began to sense God calling her to serve as an international mission strategist.

Kathy will be joining us for worship and delivering the message on Sunday, August 31st. Following the service, there will be a potluck for the congregation, and a chance for Kathy to update us on her work with Middle East Partners.

Vacation Bible School

August 18-22

9am-12pm

First Presbyterian
Snohomish

(360) 568-6498



Register Now!

<https://snopres.org>

At Scuba VBS, kids dive into friendship with God! Scuba is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Hands-on science experiments, team-building games, unforgettable 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 sturdy 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!

Your kids will also participate in a hands-on mission project, through a program called Kids Empowering Kids, that will provide clean water for families in rural Tanzania. Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us at Fin-tastic Finale each day at 11:30am, a daily celebration of God's friendship, hope, and love!

So mark these dates on your calendar:

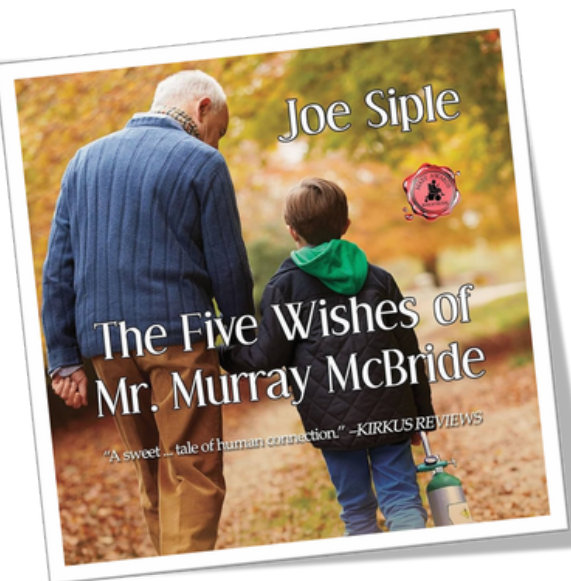
August 18-22. The fun starts at **9:00am and will end at 12:00pm.** Register your children for this life-changing adventure using the QR code below, at <https://vbspro.events/p/snopres-scuba-2025>, or call 360-568-6498 if you have questions!



diving for sunken **TREASURE**

your trash is our treasure.
please place any of the items listed below in the treasure chest.

- plastic bottles (any size or color)
- pool noodles ♦ egg cartons ♦ ribbon (any)
- cardboard tubes (all sizes) ♦ artificial flowers/plants
- mesh loofa sponges (OK if they are torn) ♦ large boxes
- plastic bowls (all sizes) ♦ pipe cleaners
- bright colored spray paints ♦ cupcake liners
- large sheets of foam, cardboard, or posterboard
- colored straws ♦ foam balls (all sizes)
- packing peanuts ♦ wood skewers ♦ coffee filters
- construction and tissue paper (all colors)
- netting, tulle, etc. (all types and colors)
- large round & deep clear plastic lids (such as bakery cake lids)
- anything that goes with an ocean or under-the-sea theme



“The international bestselling novel about Murray McBride, a lonely 100-year-old man who’s outlived just about everyone he’s ever loved. But when he meets a boy awaiting a heart transplant, Murray may learn something about finding meaning in life again.”

The August Women’s Book Club Selection is ‘The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride’ by Joe Siple. We will meet at noon on **August 13** at Myrna's house. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Carol Johnson or the church office.



Farmer's Markets **Dates**

- August 10th
- August 24th
- September 7th
- September 21st

History & Hopes Gatherings

Last Chance!

What are the praiseworthy deeds that God has done in and through the lives of people here at FPCS? How might we increasingly encourage the next generation of believers?

These are the questions we will be discussing in the final History and Hopes Gatherings this summer. On **SUNDAY, August 10th from 12-2pm (BBQ Lunch Included!)**, FPCS leadership is hosting a time for us to gather together to look back on what we have learned about God, and look forward in faith to how we might encourage the next generation of believers. These are important times in the transition process for us to consider what God has done, and how we will respond to the opportunities that God has placed before us. Even if you've attended before, you're welcome to come again!



Spiritual Formation Retreat Fundraiser

To help offset the cost of the October Spiritual Formation Retreat, the team is holding a fundraiser throughout the month of August. There are two different options. The first is an event opportunity where you choose one of the following three: **Pizza Party at Paula's Pad; Sip and Swing with Jeff Klein, Golf's 'Short Game'; or Mocktails and Halloween Moonlight, an afternoon of Paint and Sip with Carole Van Loo.**

There is also a second option: a Silent Auction throughout the month of August for the four quilts pictured above. Sign-ups and bidding opportunities are open on Sunday mornings throughout the month and in the Library during the week.

If you have questions, please check with a member of the Spiritual Formation Team.



The Spiritual Formation Ministry Team invites you to join the **SnoPres Fall Retreat October 10-12** at the Dumas Bay Centre on the Puget Sound in Federal Way. Gather with others for a refreshing weekend of rest, reflection, and feeding from God's word.

At a gorgeous setting overlooking Puget Sound from the high banks of Federal Way, we pray you will experience a word from God, rest, peace, beauty, inspiration, and renewal. Elizabeth Klein will be our guide. We desire to take Jesus' invitation to curious followers of John: "Come and See." Scan to register:



Pledge and Giving Statements

Can you believe we are halfway through 2025 already!

This would be a great time to run a Pledge and Giving Statement for 2025. There are a few reasons we suggest this.

1. We want to make sure it looks correct to you.
2. If your situation has changed during the year, and you need to make a change to your pledge, this is a good time to get that taken care of as well.
3. We have transitioned to a different payment processing system, and we want to make sure that you aren't having any difficulties with your giving.

Please send an email to both: Treasurer@snopres.org and Office@snopres.org with any concerns or updates.

Thank you!

Statement of Activities

Year to Date Through June 2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Offerings	\$ 229,938	249,994	\$ 492,645
PerCapita Collections Inc	6,942	4,800	4,800
Other Income & Gifts	14,952	11,825	23,650
Total Income	251,832	266,619	521,095
Total Expense	283,999	283,726	557,611
Net Ordinary Income	\$ (32,167)	\$ (17,107)	\$ (36,516)
Capital Project Expense	YTD		
Electrical Panel Project	\$ 96,522		



Assets as of June 30, 2025

Assets	As of June 30, 2025	As of June 30, 2024 (PY)
General Operating Account	\$ 97,643	\$ 67,023
Other Assets	33,688	42,273
Total current assets	\$ 131,331	\$ 109,296
Investments		
General Fund - Unrestricted	\$ 423,574	\$ 490,798
General Fund - Restricted	385,279	363,487
Scholarship Endowment Funds	379,517	349,488
Total Investments	\$ 1,188,370	\$ 1,203,773
Total Assets	\$ 1,319,701	\$ 1,313,069

During June, the Church received \$33,977 in total operating income and had total expenses of \$51,538 resulting in a net loss of \$17,562 from operations, compared to an expected net loss of \$4,810.

Offerings in June were below budget by \$14,712 and the year-to-date offerings are now under budget by \$20,057. Most expenses were close to target again in June.

We continue to celebrate that the church is debt-free.

STREAMING **UPDATE**



in July, your AV team started the process of changing our Sunday Morning Worship streaming platforms. That process has now been completed and we will no longer be streaming to Zoom. Those who prefer Facebook, that will continue as it has been. The church YouTube page will have two different options. The livestream of the full service will be there, as well as a condensed clip that has only the scripture and sermon.

Click on the YouTube Logo or scan to go to our YouTube Page!



YOU CAN DO IT! JOIN & PLAY!



We are welcoming new handbell players to join our choir.

Never played handbells? If you read music, you can learn to play handbells. Training will be provided.

Contact Sally Hart or the church office for more information.

First Presbyterian Church of Snohomish 360-568-6498



While we plan to continue incorporating elements of the Godly Play curriculum next year—given our investment in it—we aim to expand to a three-year cycle introducing children to foundational Bible teachings. In addition to our annual Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter lessons, we will cover themes such as:

- **Patriarchs**
- **Women in the Bible**
- **Children in the Bible**
- **Kings of Israel**
- **Prophets**
- **Traditional stories from Godly Play (Creation, Moses at Mt. Sinai, Noah, etc.)**

SESSION CORNER

August 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT: Pledging is behind what is considered normal for summer giving. If an adjustment needs to be made in any pledge, it is good to let the treasurer (Vicki Hesseltine) know. Vicki will reach out to the small number of people using the old online giving system, helping transition to the new one.

FALL CHURCH RETREAT: Session approved a request to serve communion at the retreat by Elizabeth Klein and Becky Kiser. Session approved a motion to use fundraising monies to include both scholarships and retreat-related expenses that can be carried over from year to year in an equity account.

2025 VISION AND BUDGET:

A mission study team/planning group will be forming soon to begin this work of a vision for the future that comes from the leadership and congregation. The PNC expenses related to the search and moving of an incoming pastor will be part of this budget also.

STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATES:

- FACILITIES - The HVAC repairs are needing adjustments but proceeding.
- SACTUARY REFRESH - The enthusiastic team is proceeding with getting bids for work and contractors for the work. A capital campaign is being discussed with the Stewardship Committee. Preparing our sanctuary for the 150th Anniversary in the Spring is exciting!
- COMMUNICATIONS: Carol shared survey results from the online worship experience feedback from non-members. Ten out of 12 people completed the survey. Respondents identified areas they thought we were doing well and areas that need improvement. A standout was how important as a tool is our website where people first look for a church! Next steps are planned for AV and Worship, and training.
- YOUTH AND FAMILY - A strong leadership team has been formed.

A Youth Director job description is being formed and a search team will begin in September.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- Session approved a Director of Music Ministry Search Team: Anna Thelen, Heather Shropshire, Phil Prins, Jason Gamble, Chris Harkness, and Curt Jonson, with Elizabeth Klein providing pastoral guidance.
- Session approved spending up to \$2,000 for A/V training and support. Some of the money will come from the savings of not having a Music Director this summer.
- Session approved a motion by Pastor Tom to receive the following new members into the life of the congregation: Tom and Kay Staggs, Laney Newton, Rita Hardin, Steve and Pam Willis, Richard and Nancy Walker.

Next Session Meeting: Monday, August 4, 5-7:30

Respectfully submitted,
Marita Bishop

Remember in your prayers...

(bold text indicates new prayer request)

Church Family Members

- For the family of Loren Hole who passed away recently
- **Patrick and Debbie Ingram - serious health issues**
- Heather and Brian Shropshire as Brian recovers from open heart surgery
- Bob and Anne Sterley as Bob recovers from heart surgery
- Dick and Meridee Vuori - she is recovering from a fall
- Dick and Elaine Sundman - Elaine in rehab
- Ethan, and mom Rachel Greenberg - Ethan has metastatic melanoma
- For the FPCS Nominating Team as they search for members to fill roles of Pastor Nominating Team Member, Elder, and Deacon
- Rich Guthrie - heart issues
- Sara Seiber - treatment for cancer
- Shelagh Hizzey - cancer treatment
- Ray and Lise Pettigrew in the loss of their son

PRAISES!

- **Praise that Tony Velasco, father of Tia Nieuwsma, is experiencing much less pain as he recovers from back surgery**
- **For the marriage of Maddie Gamble to Austin Steltz last Saturday (7/19) at Tall Timber**
- Praise that Baby James Locknane-Jarosik has arrived safely - prayers for Jaxon and Josh as they settle into their new family
- Praise for Baby Lucas - new grandson for Paula Erickson - born Thursday, June 12th
- Praise that Dick & Elaine Sundman have moved and are getting settled into their new location- Updated address:
11333 3rd Pl W #108, Everett, WA 98204

Friends of FPCS

- **Kevin Poole, Mary Lee Locknane's son-in-law, living with stage 4 cancer over the last 4 years**
- **For those who are adversely impacted by the reduction or termination of government programs**
- DeWayne Kurtenbach - Jeff Kurtenbach's father as he recovers from a stroke
- Pastor Moses & Margaret Tanni in Cameroon - Pastor Moses and Margaret have been struggling with a number of health issues
- Cynthia Sundman, missionary in Peru
- Cindy Duncan - Jan Gavin's niece - stage 4 renal cell carcinoma

Ongoing Prayer Support

- **For the families and communities affected by the devastating flooding in Texas, notably the families who had daughters at Camp Mystic**
- Prayers for peace where there is war and turmoil: Israel, Palestine/Gaza, Iran, Lebanon, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, Haiti, and many other places
- All refugees forced to leave their homes due to violence or natural disasters; all those left homeless, and those experiencing hunger such as in Tigray region of Ethiopia, and Sudan
- Global leaders--for wisdom, and the will and courage to act justly, and to uphold human rights

Homebound

Gary Gloe, Josh Hesseltine, Rosemary Bailey, Elaine and Dick Sundman, Marilyn de Soto, Barb Holmes, Carolyn Moss, Jerry Williamson (hospice) and Bill Barker

**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, just call the office and we will see what we can do! The office number is 360-568-6498.

In the meantime, if you would like to be placed on the list of potential hand-lenders, please let the office know as well.



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.



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



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1306 Lake View Ave
Snohomish, WA 98290
360-568-6498

INTERIM PASTOR
REV. TOM DABASINSKAS

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
REV. ELIZABETH KLEIN

OFFICE MANAGER
KATE WEST

ACCLAIM! WORSHIP TEAM
HEATHER SHROPSHIRE

**SUPERVISOR OF CHILDREN &
YOUTH MINISTRIES**
TALEA BLASKO

NURSERY
JENNIFER JOHNSON
RILEY BOERGER
JAXON LOCKNANE

CUSTODIAN
JENNIFER JOHNSON

COUNSELING CENTERS OF NPS:
360-568-8737

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

office@snopres.org | www.snopres.org

Notable August Dates:
10th - Farmer's Market
History & Hopes Gathering
13th - Women's Book Club
Morning Star Development Dessert
Potluck
18 - 22 - VBS

- In This Edition:**
- History & Hopes Gatherings
 - FPCS Fall Retreat - REGISTER TODAY!
 - FPCS Farmer's Market Dates
 - VBS INFO
 - Streaming Update
 - Updated Prayer List

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