

# The Bell Ringer



A Monthly Publication of Vancouver Heights United Methodist Church

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## Pastor's Corner Big Church in Connection

As a high school student, I joined a dozen other Lutheran youth and a handful of adults on a bus ride from Akron, Ohio to Nashville, Tennessee. What an eye-opener to join youth from around the country in study, worship and mission. I returned to Ohio with an appreciation for what might be gleaned from the "great big world out there". This one experience led to a life-long appreciation for travel and connection.

This month, I will be heading back to Nashville so that I might receive training as a Mission U leader. Just as I return to Vancouver, my daughter will be flying to Ohio for the United Methodist Women's Assembly. (My parents are hoping to meet up with her for lunch and to share stories). Then, a bit later our youth will venture to the University of Puget Sound to participate in the annual Youth Convocation. I cannot help but to appreciate the irony of it all.

It only takes a spark of opportunity for a young life to be forever changed. It only takes an invitation and encouragement, some help with resources and a compelling experience. I pray for each of our children and youth as Jesus seeks them and as grace will find them as they are. I invite you to join our fundraising efforts April the 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. We will eat Noodles and bid for Doodles and share time with our youth and youth leaders.

Leading up through, we will explore ways in which God calls us to the larger world. On May 20 (Pentecost Sunday) we will make time for new members to join us and for all members to renew our pledge to serve God in our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

**On May 30th, at 6pm, we will welcome missionaries from the Ivory Coast, Jean Claude and Francine will join us for dinner in our Fellowship Hall. Please everyone come and join us and share in God's Blessings together!**

blessings and peace,  
*Pastor Jo Ann*  
Pastor Jo Ann

### Mark Your Calendar

**Saturday, May 5th at Noon**  
VHUMC UMW General Mtg.  
In Fellowship Hall (lunch prov.)

**Saturday, May 12, 9-2pm**  
Annual Plant Sale  
-tell your friends!  
-please help us by getting fliers  
out in our community!

**Sunday, May 13**  
Mother's Day  
Special Guest Speaker  
Rev. Ken Kerr, MCC

**May 18-20**  
UMW General Assembly  
in Columbus, OH

**May 26-28**  
Youth Convo at UPS

**Sunday, May 20**  
Pentecost Sunday  
And New Member Welcome!

**Sunday, May 20**  
Faith Action Network  
Vancouver Spring Summit  
@UUC of Vancouver  
2:30pm to 4:30pm

**Wednesday, May 30th**  
6pm Dinner with Missionaries

Looking Forward:

**June 11th**  
Applications due for the  
Ira & Wanda Wikstrom Scholarship  
**June 21-23**  
PNW Annual Conference at Puyallup  
**Saturday, June 23**  
Parking Lot Sale  
**Sunday, August 12**  
Cruise-In Car Show  
**Sunday, August 19**  
Outdoor Worship  
**Saturday, October 6**  
Auction

## CALLING ALL SOON TO BE GRADUATES...

VHUMC wants to know who you are.

Please let Tina in the Church Office know so that we may honor you in your accomplishments!

Email: [vancouverheightsumc@gmail.com](mailto:vancouverheightsumc@gmail.com) and/or call: 360.693.4761.

***Did you know there are scholarships available? Pick up your application in the office.***

***Deadline is June 10th, 2018.***

The Ira Wikstrom Memorial Scholarship was established in 1977. Memorial funds that were donated in his memory were used to purchase a bond. It began with a memorial of \$1,000.00 which was put into a bond. The interest from the bond has been designated to be used for a scholarship for some students who are members of this church. Later individual donations have been added to this.

In 2013 when Wanda passed away the name was changed to the **Ira & Wanda Wikstrom Memorial Scholarship**. More funds were added to this memorial at that time.



**Help us build  
our Labyrinth  
and Prayer  
Garden-**

**We are hoping  
to break ground this summer.**

**Donations will be tracked on  
the Wall Hanging in the Nar-  
thex. You can buy a yard of ce-  
ment for \$20.00. Please put in  
a church envelope and  
mark Labyrinth on it.**

***Thank you.***

### Upcoming Meetings & Changes

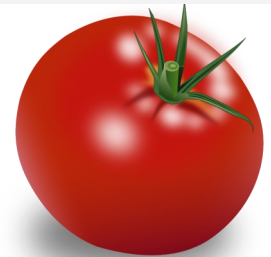
- May 1st: 6:30 Finance (19)
- May 1st: 7:30 Ad Board (19)
- May 5th: Noon VHUMC UMW Gen. Mtg. (FH)
- May 6th: Care Ministry Meeting after worship  
11:30am in Fellowship Hall
- May 6th: Noon Church Dine-Out  
at Lisa's Country Kitchen, Five Corners, 9324 NE 76th St
- May 12th: PLANT SALE!
- May 21: 6:30pm (6) Trustees *(note change due to Memorial Day)*
- May 21st: BELL RINGER ARTICLES DUE TO OFFICE
- Thursdays: Pastor Jo Ann's Study at 10am (19)
- May 21st: Stephen Ministries 1pm (Rm.8)
- May 28th: Office Closed for Memorial Day
- May 29th: 10am Education Meeting , 10am (6)
- May 30th: Mail Bell Ringer
- May 30th: Guest Missionary visit and dinner

### COMMUNITY GARDENS

There are still 2 beds remaining if anyone is interested. The cost is \$20/bed for the season.

Please call the church office if you'd like to reserve yours today.

ALSO—Needed for the gardens—a free standing hose reel. Please drop off in the gardens or front office if you've got one to share. Thank you!



I am a Beloved Child of God  
and a Beauty to Behold





I am excited so many people signed up to be a part of our Angel Outreach. *Thank you so much to everyone that did!!* This part of our Care Ministry will help to meet emergency needs of our congregation such as: a ride to a doctor appointment, sending cards, checking in at home with someone, or maybe making someone a dinner. It is great to have so many people willing to help and care for members of our congregation. This means we have more people to call on when help is needed,

Instead of just two or three people trying to do it all.

***So how will this work?***

If you have an upcoming need that you are anticipating, or an emergency need please let us know and we will do our best to make sure that need is met. Meredith Goodwin will be the primary contact for Angel Outreach. Delaine Harold and Cheryl Niehaus will also be helping her.

**Meredith can be reach by either email or mobile phone at:**

**360-281-1353 or meredithgoo@gmail.com**

You are welcome to call or email Meredith and let her know what your need is.

You can also let the office or Pastor Jo Ann know, and your request will be passed along to one of us.

If you did not sign up to be a part of Angel Outreach and would like to be, let one of us know and we will gladly add you!

⇒ *Mark your calendar*

**Sunday, May 6th we will be having a Care Ministry Meeting at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall.**

We will be going through the surveys that were filled out and look at what we can plan in the future in regards to Health and Wellness.

*Cheryl Niehaus, RN-Faith Community Nurse*



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 2nd Gary Wharton
- 4th Bryan Harold
- 6th Kayla Mayer
- 7th Lisa Lowe
- 7th Shari Perea
- 9th Melba Corlett
- 9th Chris Milner
- 9th Ruth Gillis
- 11th Ruby Boyd
- 14th Barbara Adamek
- 15th Dorothy Carson
- 15th Steve Holden
- 17th Phillip Milner
- 20th Pat Chercasen
- 23rd Rosalie Olds
- 24th Penny Wharton
- 26th Lynn Geiger
- 27th Natalie Harold
- 27th Stephanie Harold



**MAY ANNIVERSARY**

May 10, 1997  
**Michael & Cheryl Neihaus**

May 11, 2004  
**Grover & Connie Icenogle**

May 16, 1964  
**Larry & Pat Chercasen**

May 18, 1996  
**Tom & Lana Winn**

May 22, 1992  
**Chuck & Diana Mulligan**

**Welcoming this May  
To VHUMC...**

May 20, 2018  
**....Bob & Janice Willoughby**



# Plant Sale!

Saturday, May 12th

9am to 2pm

Hanging baskets - Petunia,  
Ivy Cascade Geranium, Fuchsia,  
Calibrachoa  
Premium Annuals - Dragonwing Begonia/Pink, Cal-  
ibrachoa/assorted mix,  
Zonal Geranium/assorted mix,  
New Guinea Impatient/Color Power Mix, Lucky  
Lantana/mixed colors,  
Lobelia/mixed colors,  
Gerbera/Revolution mix  
& Martha Washington Geraniums/color mix



The sale is the day before Mother's Day!  
*Maybe bring that someone special something special?*  
Master Gardener Wanda says, "if you plant before Mother's  
Day the flowers will pout...if you plant after they will flourish!"



Vancouver Heights United Methodist Church

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## Honoring Our Seniors Sunday, April 29th

This Sunday in April has come to be a special look back at the lives of our beloved Seniors. *What were their lives like being born from 1917 to 1928?* Nothing like ours! Some have spent most or all of their lives here in Vancouver. Can you imagine living in Vancouver in the 20's, 30's, 40's or 50's?

We have **13 people who are 90 years and older** who we are honoring this day. Some live far away physically, but we will hold them close on this day. Others may not be healthy enough to join us, but we will celebrate those who can.

Our honored guests are on April 29th are::

**Eleanor Bennett  
Ruth Gillis  
Ruby Boyd  
Margaret Goodwin  
Anna Boylan  
Jack Lafeman  
Merle Bramhall  
Virginia Mitchell  
Dorothy Carson  
Lou Orthmeyer  
Bunny Gilbert  
Irene Sowder  
Dorothy Dee Workman**

Have you met them? Some are here nearly every Sunday, but unless you ask, you can't know the lives they've experienced.

A reception to follow during the coffee hour. It will be your opportunity to greet these wonderful people and ask them questions like: *Were you in WWII? How about the Korean War? Did you work in the Shipyards during the war? What was it like to have another country threaten our country? What was it like to have so many people living in Vancouver?*

**Come join in the fun on the 29<sup>th</sup>!**



## Prayer Calendar 2018

Mission Witness

Jean Claude visits us on May 30th. He is a United Methodist Missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries assigned to evangelism and church planting in Cote d'Ivoire. He is based in Abidjan.

Jean Claude was assigned to Cote D'Ivoire in November of 2013. He previously did church planting in Kenya. He can speak and read six languages, including English, French, Portuguese, Swahili, Kiokwe and Bemba, the last two being Bantu in origin.

**Jean Claude Maleka**

(wife, Francine)

**Congo Central Conference**

**[jmaleka@umcmmission.org](mailto:jmaleka@umcmmission.org)**

**27 BP587**

**Abidjan 27**

**Cote d'Ivoire**

## May Missionary Birthday

May 10th

Sherlette Lee (DHMR)

[leesherlette@hotmail.com](mailto:leesherlette@hotmail.com)

2786 NW 104th Ave. #108

Sunrise, FL 33322

## Remember in Prayer, Word and Deed ...

Bob Warren ~ Jamie McCoy & family ~ Jeani Johnson  
Kristen & Jonathan Caldwell as they are preparing for their new baby

**Note:** New Yellow Praises & Prayer Cards will be found in your Bulletin every Sunday and/or you may find them on the round toll painted table in the Narthex by the Praise/Prayer Request Jar.

## Save the date...

The annual **Parking Lot Sale will be on June 23rd**. It's not too early to start thinking about your table while doing some Spring Cleaning! You might make millions...hundreds...a few dollars ?!!!

Just remember... what you think might be junk, is surely someone else's treasure!

We will be charging 10% of your total sales at the end of the day as a donation to the church.

Please call and reserve your table by calling the church office at

360.693.4761 on/before June 19th.

Pray for a sunny day and come visit with friends and neighbors. If any additional questions please contact Jerry Roche at 360.600.5433 and/or Elaine Baumann 360.695.6495



## Celebrating 50 Years of Mission

A combined effort among  
church and the child care community

**Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

GET EXCITED!!! New Location this year—

Vancouver Water Resource Center

Our Annual Auction is moving up!

Please reserve October 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30 pm

Enjoy an afternoon of delicious refreshments,  
fabulous auction items,  
& great fun!!

\*Raising funds for building improvements

*Please help us with donations?*

*Ask where you shop... Vacation lodging,*

*Coffee Shops, Restaurants, game tickets,*

*yard maintenance, entertainment packages,*

*salon & spa packages, etc.*

**AUCTION**

Watch the Bell Ringer in the coming months for more details.

*Brought to you by the Finance Committee*

# UNITED METHODIST *Women*

Faith | Hope | Love in Action

## **Saturday, May 5th at Noon VHUMC Fellowship Hall** (lunch provided)

The UMW General Meeting for May will feature Donna Cologna as our guest speaker. Donna is the house mom at Vida's Ark, which is one of the organizations that Vancouver Heights supports. Vida's Ark is a shelter for homeless teen moms located in Clark County. They are able to house up to four moms and their babies. It's a Christian home where the moms learn to live in a stable environment with their child and roommates. Donna teaches the girls skills that they will need in order to eventually live on their own. They eat meals together as well as take turns cooking and cleaning. On the premises of Vida's Ark is a community center called The Lighthouse where moms can come to get the necessities they need for their babies. There are cribs, highchairs, strollers, clothes, shoes and more. The Lighthouse is solely run by volunteers and takes gently used and new donations all year long. Please join us to hear how Donna is blessing young moms with the love of the Lord, guidance and support.

Please, if you'd like to... bring a package of toilet paper or paper towels to donate to The Lighthouse



We are in need of people who want to serve their church.  
Can you or a group you belong to host coffee hour one Sunday?

Can you greet those coming into our church on Sunday morning?

Can you bring flowers for the alter ?  
How about ushering?

Please sign up to get the week you would like to serve.

If you have any questions, please give the office a call at 360-693-4761

We are need of cookies for coffee hour on weekends we don't have anyone to host.

If you see any good deals on cookies, please pick up 1 or 2 packages and bring them to church. Thank you!!



# MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES & UPDATES...



Mother's Day is in the month of May, and what better month to do a Diaper Drive for TEEN MOMS. We will be having a Diaper Drive for Vida's Ark, during the month of May. They **NEED DIAPERS IN SIZES 5 & 6 THE VERY MOST.**

**JUST A REMINDER:** The *Make-A-Wish* (GEM TEXT) box in the front parking lot, accepts clothes, and household items in any condition. They can be torn, broken, unmatched, etc. They either re-use, or recycle everything. The donations help our community by creating jobs, reducing trash, helping non-profits and more. A small portion of the proceeds comes back to the Church.

**New Location:** The *Toiletry Bin* has been relocated on the table near the Friendship Hall, across from the Mission Bulletin Board.

**Future Mission Opportunity – Save these dates.** Our Church is signed up for the *Annual Share House Lunch Program* for **MAKING AND BAGGING LUNCHES ONLY. We will NOT BE DOING ANY DELIVERIES.** We need to be there in the mornings, **July 30, 2018 – August 3, 2018, and August 6, 2018 – August 10, 2018.** If you are want to participate, please contact our Mission – Lunch Program Coordinator, Sue Kohlhepp to sign up. Thank You!

**Mission Meeting – May 20, 2018 (due to Mother's Day) @ 11:30 in Room #6.**



## SAVE THE DATE

### Vancouver Spring Summit

May 20, 2018 2:30pm to 4:30pm

Unitarian Universalist Church of Vancouver  
4505 E. 18th Street, Vancouver, WA

Join people in your area to share opportunities for advocacy and strategize for the upcoming year. Areas of focus include: economic justice, healthcare, criminal justice and the environment. Please Register at [www.fanwa.org](http://www.fanwa.org)  
(Go to events/spring summits)





May 6—3pm Youth Group

May 13-Mother's Day—No Youth Group today

May 20—3pm Youth Group

May 27—3pm Youth Group

If you have any questions please talk with Cheryl Niehaus

## Mission u 2018 July 13-16 Central Washington University

Fulltime \$300 / Weekend \$255 / Commuter \$200  
Register online <https://pnwmissionu2018.eventbrite.com> or paper

### "What About Our Money?" Plenary Study-Rev. Neal Christie

- Explore how faith and money are related
- How do we make our financial decisions?
- How we use/consume our resources?
  - What belongs to God?
  - How to plan as people of faith?
- Oppression is evident throughout the Bible. Inequalities still shape relationship to money & God

And either-

### "Embracing Health and Wholeness"

Rev. Dr. Jo Ann Shipley; Rev. Dr. Carol Mariano; Rev. Golden Neal

- Climate change, social responsibility, & justice issues
- Importance of worship, justice & mercy, solidarity
- The biblical command to love ourselves & explore vocation, identity, play, happiness. Develop a covenantal living plan, or rule of life. **-OR-**

### "Missionary Conferences with a Difference" Bishop Mary Ann Swenson

The past, present and future of Alaska, Red Bird and Oklahoma Conferences will be explored.

Youth 12-17 -"Is It Just Money?" Amanda Hutchinson & Sara Culp

Mission u is jointly sponsored by Conference Board of Global Ministries and United Methodist Women and open to all - Men, Youth and Women. Scholarships Available.

To enroll or for more information please contact

Dean Joan Hackett [revkeithjoan@hotmail.com](mailto:revkeithjoan@hotmail.com)

Co-Registrars: Amanda Hutchinson, [amhutchinson13@gmail.com](mailto:amhutchinson13@gmail.com) or  
Susan Chamberlain, [susancchamberlain@yahoo.com](mailto:susancchamberlain@yahoo.com)

It's not too early to start thinking about Summer Church Camp  
At Ocean Park or Lazy F or Twinlow. Please visit the Pacific Northwest

Conference Camping Website at: <http://pnwCamps.org/>

You will find camp information including dates and how to register.





# Become Part of Our Church Family

New members will be welcomed at any time. Pentecost (May 20th) will be our next welcome Sunday! Pastor Jo Ann will meet privately or in small groups as individuals prefer, so that she might know stories and help to make connections within the larger church.

## Reading Radicals -

*Did you know Vancouver Heights UMC has a book group?*

The group is called Reading Radicals and meets:

**Every 4th Monday of each month at 7 PM  
in Room 19**

The only requirement for joining is a love of reading. We read books from a variety of genres, anything from Memoir, Historical Fiction, Mystery, Biography, Classics, etc. The group began in April 1999, and so in May we begin our 20th year together. Several members have been with us from the beginning! We use Book Discussion Kits from the public library that include the books and a discussion guide, therefore eliminating the need to purchase books. We meet each month to discuss the selection, turn in books, and pick up the new one.

Contact for the group is Joan Frazier, [jreader9@gmail.com](mailto:jreader9@gmail.com). Let me know if you have questions and feel free to attend our next meeting.



## Guests for dinner!

**Wednesday May 30 at 6 pm.**  
In our Fellowship Hall

Visit with ~

Jean Claude and Francine Maleka missionaries serving in Cote D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) will be itinerating the Pacific Northwest May 22- 31, 2018. The couple will be attending UMW Assembly in Columbus, Ohio from May 17- 20, 2018 and arrive Seattle May 21. They will be sharing their experiences with us over dinner around on **Wednesday, May 30 at 6 pm.**



**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!**

**MAY DINE-OUT: Sunday, May 6th at Noon.**

Lisa's Country Kitchen at Five Corners, 9324 NE 76th St.

Questions ask Pat/Larry Chercasen 360-693-4761

All are invited to join us.

*April's Dine Out to Benny's was a Hit!!*

*Over 30 people attended with us!!!*

*Don't miss this one!*





## Vancouver Heights United Methodist Church

Website: <http://vancouverheightsumc.org>  
5701 MacArthur Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98661  
360-693-4761



We are a Reconciling Congregation

**Part of the Reconciling Ministries Network.**

**We are a church that is  
spiritually alive, radically inclusive  
and justice oriented.**

### STAFF

#### Ministers:

The Whole Congregation

#### Pastor:

Rev. Dr. JoAnn Shipley  
Administrative Assistant:

Tina Skeele

#### Choir Director & Song Leader:

Nancy Huerena,

#### Accompanists:

Robby Mayer

Natalie Holt

Penny Wharton

#### Nursery Attendant:

Abigail Niehaus

#### Webmaster:

Michael Niehaus

#### Covenant Relationship:

Rev. Paul Jeffrey



### Serving in Our Church May 6

Pastor: Rev. Dr. JoAnn Shipley

Liturgist: Ebony Twitty

Choir Director: Nancy Huerena

Accompanist's: Robby Mayer & Natalie Holt

Ushers: Chris Hammett & Diane Steel

Greeters: Rita Holton & Margaret Hoeft

Flowers: Youth Group

Coffee: Lu Chen

### Serving in Our Church May 13-Mother's Day

Pastor: Rev. Ken Kerr, MCC

Liturgist: Monte Brachmann

Choir Director: Nancy Huerena

Accompanist's: Robby Mayer & Natalie Holt

Ushers: Ken & Elaine Baumann

Greeters: Lou Orthmeyer

Flowers:

Coffee: Lu Chen

### Serving in Our Church May 20:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. JoAnn Shipley

Liturgist: Joan Frazier

Choir Director: Nancy Huerena

Accompanist's: Robby Mayer & Natalie Holt

Ushers: Corkie Stewart & Mary Zimmerman

Greeters: Wanda Wilson

Flowers: Lou Orthmeyer

Coffee: Pat Wolthausen & Susan Chamberlain

### Serving in Our Church May 27

Pastor: Rev. Dr. JoAnn Shipley

Liturgist: Darla Borella

Choir Director: Nancy Huerena

Accompanist's: Robby Mayer & Natalie Holt

Ushers: Walt Royle & Diane Steel

Greeters: UMW

Flowers: UMW

Coffee: UMW



[www.vancouverheightsumc.org](http://www.vancouverheightsumc.org)