



MANITO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Message from Our Pastor:

Hello Manito Church Family,

Are you tired? Tired of the sameness, tired of the distance, tired of having to meet virtually instead of in-person? I'm sure that for many of you, the answer is "Yes!"

When we get tired, we don't often make the best decisions. I know that I struggle to have a good attitude and tend to focus on myself instead of others. And you, like me, may find that doing the right thing is not only harder, but also can take more energy.

But we must not grow weary church. This work of worshipping virtually and maintaining physical distancing is saving lives. By following these steps to help prevent the spread of the virus, we are helping to keep each other healthy and making sure that we do not overwhelm our healthcare system here in Spokane. As Galatians 6:9 says, "let us not

grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up."

This is not forever. We will gather together again. So I want to encourage us all to think creatively about how you can find refreshment or rejuvenation for your soul in these difficult times. I've been spending time out in my garden beds, doing yoga, drinking coffee and being more intentional about calling or meeting on Zoom with friends and family. What fills your cup? What helps to refresh and rejuvenate your soul that can be done during this season of physical distancing? Do more of those things and take care of yourself. Let's you and I not grow weary in doing what is right.

Peace,

Pastor Tiffany



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Annual Operating Budget: \$246,685

| | <u>May 2020</u> | <u>Year To Date thru May 31, 2020</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Income | \$ 14,226 | \$ 107,869 |
| Expenses | \$ 17,407 | \$ 88,481 |
| Surplus (Deficit) | \$ (3,181) | \$ 19,388 |

Financially, Manito continues to be healthy. Pledged giving is very strong at 130% of budget. Operating cash on hand on May 31st was \$43,504.

Please continue to support Manito through your tithes and gifts. Checks can be mailed to the office. You may also choose to give through PayPal – there is a link on our website. Also, giving can be done directly from your financial institution to Manito. Greg Plummer will be glad to provide information on how to do that.

The Finance Committee typically meets in the Memorial Lounge at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. However, meetings are currently being held on-line through zoom. Contact Greg Plummer, 509-838-8787, for information on how to attend. All members and friends of Manito are invited to participate.

Greg Plummer

Chair, Finance Committee

June Birthdays!

Lauren Lauder - 6/2
Dan Kuney - 6/4
Jacob Whitman - 6/4
John Barber - 6/5
Louise Branson - 6/6
Larry Hayden - 6/12

Donna Mead - 6/12
Becky Manly - 6/15
Greg Plummer - 6/16
Bob Herbey - 6/21
Jim Larson - 6/28
Brett Robison - 6/29

THE JOY OF MY HEART

by Polly Carlson

The joy of my heart is connection;
A place of absolute belonging,
Community, warmth and communion.
Where my heart is filled to bursting.

There's nothing else that quite touches
The belonging I feel at church.
Truly the home I can always trust,
The answer to a very long search.

It scaffolds so much connection,
Both heart and soul, for all it's worth.
Present in the Lord's inner sanctum,
Friends and a sense of inner rebirth.



A message from Twinlow: Twinlow had closed down before the stay at home order to help slow the spread of this virus. The hope was to re-open later this month, however all of our spring and early summer groups have canceled or moved to the fall. This had taken a toll on our budget.

Twinlow needs your help right now. With no groups to host, we have no income besides the support of community and donors like you. Our goal is to keep the bare necessities paid, keep our team together, and make sure camp is ready when we are allowed to meet again. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 to help cover the losses we have experienced this spring.

To donate you can send checks made out to, TWINLOW, to our office: 22787 N Twinlow Rd, Rathdrum, ID 83858 or online by visiting our website: twinlow.org/donate.

Looking for ways to serve others???

Consider donating to one of our Ministry partners!

Manito UMC will have a team of individuals ready to receive and transport your donations to Shalom Ministries and Family Promise each Wednesday from 1:30pm-2:00pm.

Just bring your items to the Church parking on 33rd (across the street from our building).



Shalom Update:

What crazy times we are in and, throughout this mysterious virus, our team is staying vigilant (as you can see by the picture) by practicing the CDC recommended guidelines including social distancing.

Shalom's operations is considered "essential" because of governor Inslee's stay at home order that has excluded workers who provide or determine eligibility for food, shelter, in-home supportive services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals including individuals experiencing homelessness.



Our operations reverted in early March from inside dining to a Grab-and-Go system where meals are prepared and served at the Howard Street entrance door. Six of our Core-team members have agreed provide the majority of the labor to prepare and serve the meals, thereby allowing our volunteers to stay at home until the CDC guidelines are relaxed.

Besides the additional cost of labor for our team, is the need for the many paper products and single serving packaged food that have added to the cost of the operations. So far, we have received some good support for the additional operational costs. However, we still depend on the continued support from many to sustain our operations.

The demand for nutritious meals remains strong. Last Monday (April 20th), we served 201 meals for breakfast and 276 for dinner. We expect the April 2020 meal count to exceed the 4115 meal count for March. Although we continue to serve breakfast Monday through Thursday and dinner Monday and Tuesday, we understand there are still some food insecurity gaps in the community. *continued*

The plan for the future is to start asking for volunteers, sometime in May, to help prepare the meals while we continue with the Grab-and-Go system. We remain thankful for the limited number of volunteers who continue to provide communications, shopping, accounting and maintenance to help keep us afloat.

Until then, please stay safe and keep Shalom in your prayers.



A Message from Family Promise of Spokane:

We are thankful that Manito United Methodist Church has taken the current crisis as an opportunity to care for the vulnerable members of our community. Every Wednesday you have been collecting donations for both Family Promise and Shalom ministries and we want to thank you for that generosity.

When you give to Family Promise, you advance our mission to equip families and communities to end the cycle of homelessness. More specifically, you support our program centered around preventing families from becoming homeless, sheltering those who are already homeless, and providing aftercare for those who are newly housed. Our doors are open to families of all kinds including pregnant women, single fathers and extended family.

Our guest Karan shared with us what this means to her: "I was told on the phone [when I called Open Doors for the first time], 'If you have your baby with you, we will never turn you away.' And those were the most comforting words that I had ever heard in my situation... *I was already accepted and you didn't even know us.*" Since coming to Open Doors, Karan has found the stability and community needed to raise her daughter. She sees the shelter as one stepping stone in life, but one where big steps were made. Indeed, it is here that her daughter took her literal first steps.



The COVID-19 crisis has strained our ability to provide for families like Karan's. This is because we had to pause our Bridges Church Rotational Shelter program and ask volunteers and interns to stay at home. Still, we are housing 60 moms, dads and children. The most vulnerable of these — including two pregnant mothers — were moved to our administrative offices. Not only do we provide shelter, but also 24/7 services including food, laundry, essential care, life coaching and case management. Due to the economic impact of the virus, we anticipate that more families will be needing these services now, more than ever before.

In addition to dropping off donations with Manito UMC, you can support our mission by visiting www.familypromiseofspokane.org/donate. Here, you will find an updated list of our needed supplies, instructions to assemble a Welcome Home Kit, and a place to give your financial support. It would also be greatly beneficial if you would spread the word and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/familypromiseofspokane.com.

Thank you for coming alongside us as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

All of Us at Family Promise of Spokane