



Manito United Methodist Church

Spokane, Washington

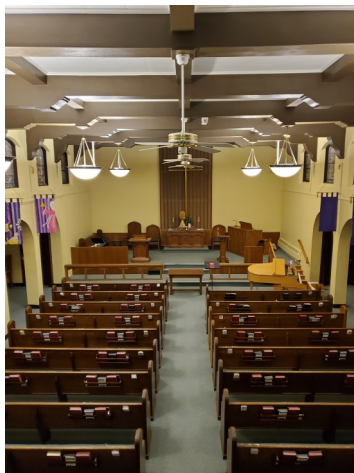
Building and Maintenance Report

A lot has been happening around the building in the last few months. Thank you to everyone who came out to paint the trim on the sanctuary building. It looks great and saved us a great deal of money. Other projects included working on the old front doors. Thanks to the Budes and Nashs for their hard work on them.

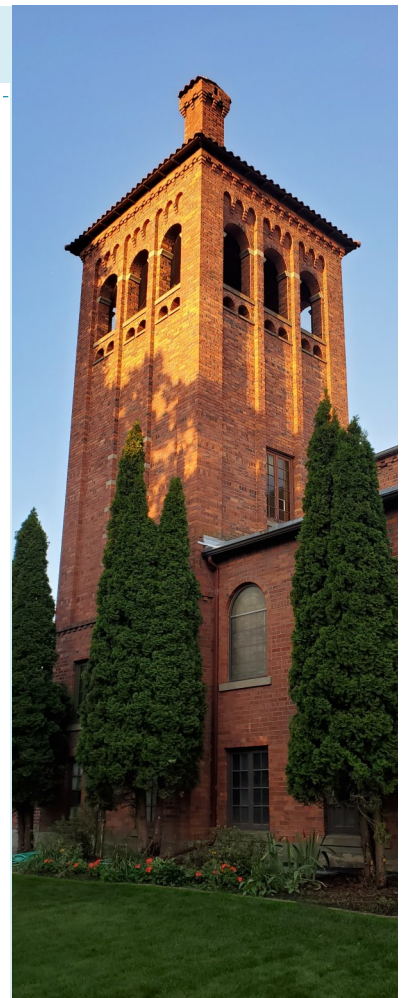
This summer, the education wing was supposed to be painted. The painters defaulted on the contract, so we are back at square one to find a painting contractor. Over the winter, the Building Maintenance Team (BMT) will be accepting bids to complete the project next spring. The BMT is also seeking bids to repair/replace the downspouts on both buildings. That work will either be completed this fall/winter or in the spring.

There are projects that will be completed indoors over the winter. A few of these include painting Pam's office, the pastor's office, and the basement bathrooms. There will be some plumbing/lighting changes as well in the basement bathrooms.

A special thank you goes out to Greg Plummer for his work with ECEAP to get them up and running. It was an enormous amount of work that he coordinated or did himself. It is a great boon to our building to be able to host the children and their families.



Others have worked behind the scenes to make sure the church is upgraded and maintained. Sue Plummer was instrumental in getting all the work done on upgrading the kitchen. The space is now safe, clean, and welcoming to us and building users. Bryan Branson continues to maintain the grounds by doing some cleaning up, pruning, and general maintenance.



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A Message from Our Pastor

Manito Church Family,

The season of Advent is almost upon us. Each year we are invited to go on a journey during Advent. We go back to the waiting in expectation for Jesus to show up, back to the stories of the ones who prepared the way for Jesus' life and ministry, back to what it looked like to make way for the kingdom of God. During Advent, we are reminded again of all the people who blew up their normal everyday lives by defying cultural expectations in order to bring Jesus into this world, and we remember all the ones who created a space for Mary, Joseph, and Jesus when no one else was willing to make room.

And this story, this is STILL our story. We are a people who live in the "already and not yet." We believe that Emmanuel has come, that God is with us, that God's kingdom is among us and yet not fully realized. You and I know that the world is not as it should be, and so we still wait in expectation for the world to be made whole, made right, made well. We eagerly wait for the day when pain will be no more, when every tear will be wiped away, for the day when all oppression will cease.

And that is why you and I go on this Advent journey every year, why each of us still prepares the way for Jesus' life and ministry in our world, why you and I work to live as members of the kingdom of God in our world right now. This is why you and I defy cultural norms and expectations, creating space for Jesus when others find it too inconvenient to make room.



Birthday Season!

Eli Cabrera	11/07
Jim Prock	11/07
Leon Vostrez	11/19
John Blunt	11/22
Gordon Davis	11/22
Kimberly Potter	11/24
Krista Branson	11/27
Cole Bafus	11/28
Gwen Bafus	11/28
Polly Carlson	12/05
Ann Reinhart	12/12
Dan Manly	12/13
Waltraud Prast	12/14
Jennell Branson	12/17
Sindy Barber	12/23
Allis Saint	12/25
Linda Evans	12/26

So, as we embark on this Advent journey yet again, may God move in our hearts and lives, drawing us deeper into our story of our faith. And may we be reminded once again that our life of faith and the good news we share is to be just as the Angels announced it in Luke: "good news of great joy for all the people."

Peace,

Pastor Tiffany DeTienne

Thoughts from the SALT

Change is in the air. The seasons are changing, times have changed, and times are continuing to change. Change has certainly affected things at Manito United Methodist church. One of the things that has been on the minds of us on the SALT is how and when we can change back to a more normal environment at the church, whatever "normal" means.

The COVID situation has impacted our church worship service in four principal ways: masks are required indoors; no singing (choir or congregation); seating in the pews is spaced out to provide separation between parties; and no coffee or goodies at the fellowship gathering

after the service. While useful in reducing the likelihood of spreading the virus among us, these are nonetheless aggravations and nuisances. So, when can we dispense with some or all of these and return to something more like old times?

One of the things the world is coming to realize, as we gain more experience with COVID-19, is that the virus will likely never really disappear. Vaccines are good for limiting how sick people get when infected, but even vaccinated, you can still “catch it” and spread it to others before your body’s own defenses ramp up to stamp it out in you when you do pick it up. The vaccines simply mean your body already is on the alert for the virus and is ready with a plan of action when it detects it. Many don’t/won’t even realize they do “have” it; it will pass with no evident symptoms. The unvaccinated body has to first realize there is a new invader in it, then figure out what it is, then figure out what to do about it, and then begin ramping up the defense – this takes longer, and provides more opportunity for the virus to make you really sick, or worse, with more opportunity to spread it to others. So, to some degree, it will always be around, like colds and the flu.

Work is ongoing with the development of new and better vaccines, which may help our bodies clear the virus more quickly, and perhaps be more lasting in their effectiveness. Work is also ongoing with treatments to actually target and eradicate the virus once it infects us, thus teaming up with our immune systems to limit its effects on us.

What all this likely means is that we will eventually come to live with it, as with colds and flu, and our responses will be similar. It will simply cease being the major health hazard it is today. At some point, as this becomes increasingly recognized, Governmental regulatory restrictions will begin easing, and the Church Leadership will relax its restrictions on us. While some may choose to continue precautions such as masks, it is likely that they will cease to be mandatory or commonplace. Singing will return. You can gather and sit as you wish. Coffee and food will return to the Fellowship Hall (yippee!). Handshakes and hugs will be back. What we don’t know yet is the timing on all of this. In the meantime, though, we are in this holding pattern. We are waiting for the change.

Fiesta de la Casa Community Event

As we have heard, the event was a tremendous financial success! Thank you to everyone who donated items, bought items, and worked hard to set it up. I just want to say how nice it was for the church family to gather. It was a beautiful day, and people sat around the tables and visited with their friends face-to-face. As always, there was plenty of laughter during the auction and some fierce competition. The dinner was provided by Fiesta Mexicana, who gave us a deal on the food.



Thank you again for supporting this worthwhile mission project. Between the funds raised at the Fiesta de la Casa event and your continued gifts over the last few weeks, we have raised \$14,757! This is enough to build two homes for families in Mexico with our missionary partners at Global Ministries. The remaining \$2,357 will be split between our two ministry partners in Spokane - Shalom Ministries and Family Promise!

Tlancualpican Home #1

Meet the new family who will live in the first home we're supporting. Manito UMC raised enough funds through the Fiesta de la Casa fundraiser to build two homes for impoverished families in Tlancualpican, Puebla, Mexico. Construction on the first home will begin in January. Our mission partner, Give Ye Them to Eat (GYTTE), chooses the families who will occupy the homes. As you can imagine, GYTTE gets a lot of requests for homes. Because Tlancualpican is a very rural area, the team knows most of the people in the area and they help determine who has the most need. Then, the team makes visits to talk to the family to see what their situation is. The family must have a little piece of land in their name.

The family of Gregorio Cardozo Vásquez (dad) and Natali Corona de la Rosa (mom) have been selected for the first home that we are supporting. Gregorio works many small jobs to support his family, including as an agriculture worker and as a helper for people who are building things. They have four children, José Manuel (15 years old), Nancy (12), Anabel (10), and Abraham (2). The family is currently living in the house of a family member next to their small lot. That house is in terrible shape. To make sure they will work with GYTTE on building the house, they have been asked to do the very hard work of leveling their little rocky lot. They are doing that now.



Gregorio Cardozo Vásquez and Natali Corona de la Rosa
with their children

Advent Giving

This year the Missions and Social Concerns committee has chosen projects to inspire our giving during the Advent Season. There are many ways you can serve the poor and underserved in our community.

Socks for the homeless: We are gathering socks for men, women, and children to be donated to local charities. We have split them in the past, and some of the recipients were Shalom, Family Promise, and Women and Children's Free Restaurant

Adopting Families: This year we are partnering with North Central High School to help families have a Christmas that they normally wouldn't have. We have decided to take on three families. The maximum spending limit per person is \$25.00. Presents will need to be returned to the church by December 9.

Christmas Eve Service Offering: In years past, Manito was a big supporter of Crosswalk, a shelter for homeless teenagers. Crosswalk is trying to raise money to build a new building and upgrade their service to homeless teenagers. The money raised through the Christmas Eve offering will be donated to their building fund.

Gift Cards for Homeless Teens: Again this year, we will collect gift cards for the teenagers currently in the Spokane Public Schools HEART program for homeless students. They try to give each homeless teenager a gift card for Christmas to be able to buy something they want or need. The denominations don't matter, and everything is welcome.

A Thank-You from Shalom Ministries

Dear faith body of Manitoba UMC,
Over the years you have touched &
helped the homeless & hungry. Today, your
generous gifts bring hope, meals worth
standing in line ^{for} to the increasing numbers
of women, men, & teens. We wish you could
hear the genuine "thank yous" for the
services you help provide. We thank you
for the many positive & God filled ways
you are changing lives &...

..... For Making a Difference!



Shalom to you and

Many Blessings from Shalom Ministries!

Need to Contact Manito UMC?

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Mailing address: P.O. Box 8656 Spokane, WA
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Clickable Links:

Website: manitoumc.org

Facebook: Manito United Methodist Church

Instagram: @manitoumc

YouTube: Manito United Methodist church

Finance Committee Report

2021 Annual Operating Budget: \$255,089

Year to date Thru Oct. 31 2021

Income	\$245,719
Budget	<u>\$222,500</u>
Total	+\$23,219

These numbers continue to look strong, however they have come down quite a bit since previous newsletters. This is due to paying the bills of the many projects we have going on in the church right now.

Due to the fact that our investment earnings have done so well, it has given us the opportunity to pursue replacing the boiler that we have been worried about for many years. There are so many organizations that utilize our church that we are at the point we can not take the chance of our heating system going out in the middle of winter and not being able to get it replaced for a number of months and having to close the buildings to groups that might never return. Not only are these groups benefiting from our building, but as a church we are benefiting financially due to the income that they provide.

You will be hearing more about this project in the near future, and as he always does, Greg Plummer has so graciously taken the lead on this project. Speaking for myself and the finance committee, we are so fortunate to have Greg and his experience.

At our last meeting the Finance Committee authorized taking \$59,800 out of our Parsonage account at the foundation in order to put the down payment on the boiler to start work in the spring. Just like everything else, prices keep going up, and this allowed us to lock in the price now. The total cost of the project with removal of the old boiler, including asbestos removal and new hot water heaters, is budgeted at \$148,071. This includes a 15% contingency. We also anticipate getting a rebate from Avista on the project that will help offset the cost; however, we do not know what that amount will be as of yet.

Once the project is complete, we will apply for a loan from the foundation to pay for the remainder of the project and reimburse us for the money that we put down.

If you have any questions about the financing of the project, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Please continue to support Manito through your tithes and gifts. Checks can be mailed to the office; or you may also choose to give through the Donate tab on Manito's website which will allow you to use a bank account or credit/debit card. Also, giving can be done directly from your financial institution to Manito.

The Finance Committee is back to meeting in person. Our next meeting will be at 7:00 in the Memorial Lounge on Tuesday Dec. 14th. Members and friends of Manito are invited to participate. Contact Chris Bafus at 509-994-5392 if you would like to attend.

Chris Bafus
Chair, Finance Committee



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®