

The Circuit Rider

Trinity United Methodist Church

100 N. Blake Ave. / P.O. Box 3697 / Sequim, WA



OCTOBER 2026

Volume 34 Number 10

From Pastor Vonda

Well, it's almost here: shorter days, cold and rainy (maybe) weather. I know for some of you, that will mean changes to your routine. I understand. I don't like driving at night either. But thankfully, worship is in the morning!

We have just started a sermon series called "Let's Love One Another." Sometimes that's hard, I know. But that is a mandate from Jesus. While we can't agree on everything, let's at least agree to love each other.

I've been thinking a lot about our country and how we are so divided. As people of God, I believe we can spread love and hope throughout our community that reaches far beyond our local space. Our sermon series this month is a campaign for kindness.

- kindness
- compassion
- humility
- respect
- love

That's how we're to treat one another: with kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love. Jesus expects nothing less.

I always try to remember that I don't know what another is going through, and perhaps a little bit of kindness goes a long way towards making their day a little brighter.

Last week, I was listening to a Glen Campbell song titled, "Try a Little Kindness." Perhaps you remember it. These words struck a chord in me.

*If you see your brother standing by the road
With a heavy load from the seeds he sowed
And if you see your sister falling by the way
Just stop and say, "You're going the
wrong way"*

*You've got to try a little kindness
Yes, show a little kindness
Just shine your light for everyone to see
And if you try a little kindness
Then you'll overlook the blindness
Of narrow-minded people on the
narrow-minded streets*

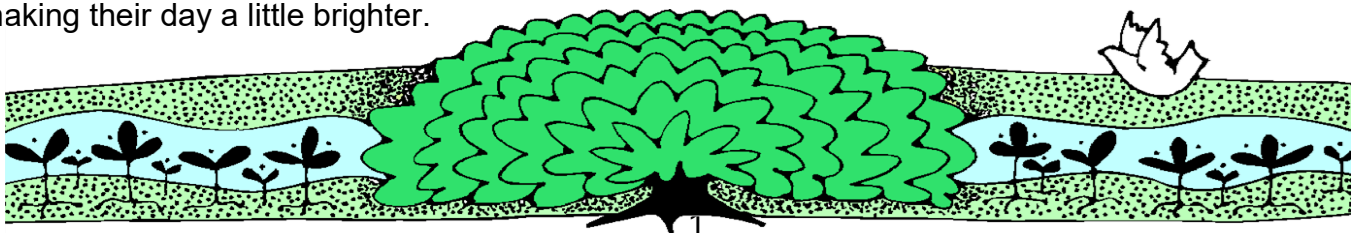
*Don't walk around the down and out
Lend a helping hand instead of doubt
And the kindness that you show every day
Will help someone along their way*

*You've got to try a little kindness
Yes, show a little kindness
Just shine your light for everyone to see
And if you try a little kindness
Then you'll overlook the blindness
Of narrow-minded people on the
narrow-minded streets*

Let's all love one another and be a little kinder to those we meet along the way.

I'll look for you in church!

Pastor Vonda



THE WIRED WORD

Faith Meets the Front Page

Thursdays, 12:00–1:00pm

Light Lunch Included

What does Scripture have to say about what's happening in the world right now? Join us each Thursday for The Wired Word, a lively discussion class that connects current events with biblical wisdom.

Each week we dig into a timely news story and explore it through the lens of faith — asking hard questions, wrestling with Scripture, and discovering how the ancient text still speaks to our modern moment.

Bring your questions, your curiosity, and your appetite — lunch is on us. Just an hour of thoughtful conversation with friends. Facilitated by Lewis Godby.

All are welcome.

Come as you are; leave a little wiser.

 **First meeting: Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026**

 **12:00–1:00pm, every Thursday**

 **Trinity United Methodist Church**

 **Light lunch provided**



Trunk or Treat

October is here and so is Trunk or Treat. We are excited for families to join us in the parking lot as we hand out candy on

October 31, 4:00-6:00 p.m. We will gather at 3:30 to park cars and get ready. If you would like to join Pastor Vonda and Tom, there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to be with us and would like to help out, we need CANDY, lots and lots of candy! Please bring candy to church office beginning October 15.

You are encouraged to dress up and decorate your trunk or truck bed. But, you certainly don't have to. The goal is to provide a safe place for young people to go Trunk or Treating. Please see Pastor Vonda for more information.

Simple Board Governance Informational Meeting Sunday, October 4

An all-church email was sent out on Wednesday, September 16 with details about Simple Board Governance. Join us after worship on October 4 for discussion and if you have additional questions.



Harvest Celebration, Oct. 18

A harvest celebration, in the form of a baked potato bar, will be held immediately after the Sunday service on October 18. Reservations for the buffet-style meal, which will include LaVeta's chili, apple cake and ice cream, will be taken after church in the fellowship hall on September 27, October 4 and 11. As you reserve your spot, there will be an opportunity to make a donation to cover food costs. All are welcome.

***This is the 135th year of the
Harvest Celebration!!***

Visiting our Homebound

While we are always happy that people attend worship and events at the church, there are those in our church family who are unable to get out and about. Diane Davis has been visiting some of our folks for many years. Pastor Vonda also visits and serves communion. We are looking for people who would like to commit an hour or two a month to visiting the homebound in our church family. If you are one of those people, please come to an organizing gathering on Tuesday, October 13 at 1:00 p.m. If you are interested and can't make the meeting, please see Pastor Vonda for more information.

UPCOMING UNITED METHODIST SPECIAL OFFERINGS



World Communion Sunday Offering - October 4

World Communion Sunday is one of six churchwide Special Sundays designated to support ministries and causes important to the entire United Methodist Church. On this Sunday, United Methodists join Christians around the world in celebrating Holy Communion, remembering that we are one in Christ, no matter our background, language, or culture.

But it's more than just worship. It's also a time to support scholarships and leadership training for students from underrepresented communities—helping the Church become more inclusive and better equipped to serve.

Special Sundays give us a chance to focus our prayers and support on important ministries all year long—uniting our gifts to multiply our impact. Your generosity supports scholarships, grants, and programs that help prepare the next generation of church leaders. Here's how the funds are used:

- **Scholarships (50%)** Half of the funds collected go toward scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color in the U.S. who are pursuing ordained ministry. To learn more or apply, email scholars@umcmmission.org.
- **Grants (35%)** A portion of the funds provide In-Service Training Grants that support diversity, equity, and access training—helping the Church recruit and retain leaders of color across all areas of ministry.
- **Leadership Programs (15%)** The remaining funds support leadership development with partner churches in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and communities of color in the U.S. For more information, contact scholarship@umcmmission.org.



UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY - November 1

UMC Student Day is normally celebrated on the last Sunday in November. However, because that is also a Noisy Can Sunday, TUMC will observe Student Day on Sunday November 1st. Student Day is a denomination-wide Special Sunday dedicated to students' education and faith development. The day emphasizes the importance of education in shaping future Christian leaders and providing opportunities for service, leadership, and spiritual growth.

Contributions go directly to scholarships for United Methodist students, helping remove barriers to higher education at either the undergraduate or graduate level. Checks can be made out to TUMC; write "Student Day" on the memo line.

VETERANS' DAY SERVICE

Our Veterans' Day Service will be held on Sunday, November 8. We want to create a slide show of our church family members who served in the military.

We are requesting pictures to be submitted by Monday, Oct. 19 to the office or email to Lawrence Charters, (Sight & Sound Team, communications@sequimtumc.org.) We need the following information: Full Name, Military Branch (i.e. Army, Navy, Coast Guard, etc.) Pictures will be returned.

Other Questions: please contact Marsha Chatfield.

*Thank you,
Worship Ministry Team*

Two New “Hands on” Projects Beginning Sunday, October 4

Our Missions Ministry Team is starting **two new projects** and we invite you to participate.

UMCOR-Approved Hygiene Kits



Did you know that Trinity UMC has been designated as an emergency shelter?

Our goal is to collect items for 100 to 150 kits to be

stored on church premises. These kits would be used in the event that a shelter is needed – or shared if there is a natural disaster in the region. The cost of each kit is about \$15.

There are a few ways that you can help: donate funds for kits, donate specific items for kits, and/or put a complete kit(s) together and bring them to the church. *If donating funds, please issue a check to Trinity UMC and indicate “hygiene kits” in the memo section.*

Copies of the kits and assembly instructions will be available on the table in the fellowship hall.

Hygiene Kit Materials:

- 1 hand towel (15X25 – 17X 27 inches)
- One washcloth (NO kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels)
- 1 comb (must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth; NO pocket combs or picks); rattails and combs without handles are acceptable but **MUST** Have at least 6 inches of teeth
- One toenail or fingernail clipper (NO emery boards or metal nail files)
- Bath-size bar soap (3 oz. bar or larger) NO Ivory or Jergins soap; (DO NOT REMOVE from packaging)
- One adult toothbrush (DO NOT REMOVE FROM PACKAGING)
- Personal advertising not acceptable (i.e. names of dentists)

- 10 adhesive bandages (3/4' X 3 inches)
- One one-gallon size resealable bag

IMPORTANT!

- All items must be new.
- DO NOT WASH any of the items as they no longer will be considered new.
- DO NOT INCLUDE ANY PERSONAL NOTES, MONEY OR ADDITIONAL MATERIALS IN THE KITS.
- Contents of kits or the containers of kits should not be imprinted with cartoon characters, advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols.



Note: we also will be collecting some containers of dry shampoo and Rinse-Free Bathing Wipes for shelter use. These items will **NOT** be included in the hygiene kits.



Clean Water for the Methodist Primary School, Larteh Akuapem, Ghana

In partnership with Rev. Dr. Jean Claude Masuka Maleka, we are continuing to raise funds for the Methodist Primary School in Ghana which is about 80 miles from Accra.

- The climate is arid and the boarding school has 350 students without a water source. The nearby large village (about 13,000 people) also does not have water. The government is trying to provide water for the village. Resources are limited and the school is outside the border. Children are walking long distances, before and after school, to get water.

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Clean Water-Methodist School, continued

- The 2 options/costs involved:
To drill the well and have a hand pump = about \$6,000 U.S.D. **OR** to drill the well, build a water tower and provide electricity (solar panel) = about \$10,000.
- It will be necessary to drill about 100 meters.
- Teams of local people will be trained to maintain the well.
- The local people are saving money and have about \$700 to contribute to the cost of the well. Our August Noisy Can offering generously provided \$2,116.96. Funds will go directly to the Methodist Advance # account for this project in Ghana.

Any further support would be greatly appreciated.



Bells Across America



On September 17th, Trinity participated in the "Bells Across America" event by hosting a public bell-ringing of the historic church bell in honor of Constitution Day. Church members and

other Sequim residents gathered outdoors around our bell for prayer, singing, and reflections on the importance of the U.S. Constitution. Together we recited the Preamble, remembering that it is the Constitution that assures us our freedoms of speech, assembly, and religious affiliation.



TUMC: Little Free Pantry Needs for October

- Cans of hearty soups
- Cans of chili
- Milk (single serve & shelf stable)
- Healthy snack bars (individually wrapped)
- Cans of chicken, tuna, pork

Large or small donations are greatly appreciated. If you have questions about our Little Free Pantry, contact Jan Kreidler.

October TUMC Safe Parking Program Update

The transition to the new site went smoothly. Five slots are now available for guests. The donated refrigerator is being put to good use. Hot meals are available for guests.

At the present time, there are three active guests and three more applications are pending. If all three are approved, the site will be full and there will be a waiting list.

A grant requesting money to pay for things not covered by the County grant will be submitted soon. If awarded, it will pay for the SaniCan, the wash station, background checks, garbage, and minor car repairs.

Thanks to all of you, the Safe Parking Ministry continues to make progress toward the goal of providing a temporary safe place to sleep for vulnerable people to get back on their feet.



Taizé Prayer Service

4th Wednesday of Every Month in the Sanctuary at 6:30

Our Taizé services are on the 4th Wednesday of each month with the next one being on October 28. Taizé worship includes candlelight, prayers, readings, silence, and soft music with repetitive words led by singers and musicians. Starting this month, we will be blessed with both piano and a recorder at our service. The service is very meditative and offers an opportunity to step away from the commotion of everyday life and experience silence, while centering yourself on the Lord. You are invited to come and listen to what God is saying to you and find peace in this troubled world.



The TLC Team Needs You!

On the first and third Fridays of the month, a team of men and women get together for light maintenance around the church—both inside and out—jobs big and small. **In October they will meet on October 2 and 16.**

They meet at 9:30am beginning with prayer at the front of the church; all then go to their various assignments from a list compiled by Karen Eldridge. At the end, everyone sits down to enjoy coffee and delicious treats while socializing. Won't *you* join the TLC team? If interested, contact Karen... or just show up! You'll be welcomed!

**Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra
Chamber Music Concert
Saturday, October 10, 7pm
Here at Trinity United Methodist Church**

Wanted: Crafters, Quilters, Bakers, Cooks

Pastor Vonda is looking to start a Home Economics type club for youth in our community who want to learn to cook/bake and/or sew. If you would be interested in helping with this endeavor come to an informational meeting on Tuesday, October 6 at 2:30 p.m. Please speak with Pastor Vonda if you have any ideas or questions.

“Wonderful Life” Photos

Pastor Vonda is seeking photo submissions that capture the theme of a “wonderful life.” These could be any kind of pictures that celebrate life’s blessings: friends and family, nature, church activities, ministry events, etc. Wherever you see wonder, we would like a picture. Please submit photos by October 31 to communications@sequimtumc.org

TUMC Finance Report

	Operating Fund	
	August	Year-to-Date
Income	\$ 25,850.44	\$268,247.17
Expenses	<u>\$ 37,630.48</u>	<u>\$297,791.27</u>
Difference	(\$11,780.04)	(\$ 29,544.10)

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Finance Chair Scott Owens, email: financechair@sequimtumc.org

Donate Online

On the TUMC

[Donate Online Here](#)

website is an opportunity to donate electronically. Find the Donate button at the bottom of the Home Page or click on the Donate page tab. Then click on the button where you will find several options for making your donation.

Or...Use this QR code. It links you to the Donate page on the TUMC website. Use the camera on your cell phone. Hover over the code and *myvanco.com* appears. Click on this link and you are at the Donate page.



A New School Year Has Begun

The beginning of the school year brings children and youth activities to Trinity United Methodist Church. We are happy to welcome back two Girl Scout Troops, the Cub Scouts, a 4H group, and the "Sprouts," a beginning music/violin class. Added this year is a Girl Scout Daisy Troop and an older-youth orchestra class. The two music classes are sponsored by Sequim Community Orchestra. How exciting it is to be able to share our church with these young people! If you are interested in visiting or learning more about these groups, please contact Jim Stoffer, Scout Liaison/Community Liaison.



Clallam Children's Choir

In addition to these community groups, we begin another year of the Clallam Children's Choir, a ministry of Trinity United Methodist Church. This community choir, led by Joan Reeve Owens, Audra Gipson and Kathy Wraith, is open to children entering 1st through 7th grades. Their goal is to teach children healthy singing techniques and music-reading skills, equipping them to be lifetime participants and enjoyers of music. Dinner, provided by TUMC congregants each week, enhances our music program by promoting a sense of community and belonging.



TUMC CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Vonda McFadden

Organist: Pauline Olsen

Accompanist: Donna Grubbs

Choral Director: Dr. Jerome Wright

Music Coordinator: Betsy Noland

Sight & Sound Coordinator: Lawrence Charters

Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Marian Needham

Ministry Assistant: Molly Bishop

Ministers: Congregation Members

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Church Office, 360-683-5367 church@sequimtumc.org

Church Website: www.sequimtumc.org

Pacific Northwest Conference Website: www.pnwumc.org

Official United Methodist Website: www.umc.org

OUR MISSION

Welcome • Grow • Empower • Serve



Trinity United Methodist Church
Sequim, Washington

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