



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SITKA SUNDAY AND BEYOND

Our Mission Statement:
To proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, worship God passionately, foster spiritual growth, and provide Christian support and service.



This Week

October 21 – October 28, 2018

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service, BeTween Bible Study Manna Mission led by partnering church*
	12:30pm	Education Committee
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Bells Practice
	6:30 pm	Books & Conversation at St. Peter's-by-the-Sea
Thursday	12:00pm	Worship Service Fellowship Potluck



October 21st

Hal Spackman

October 25th

Jessica Lew

October 26th

Bonnie Cottrell

October 28th

Jarrett Hirai

**UMC prepares and serves food on the first Sunday of every month at the Lutheran Church as part of Manna Mission which is currently upheld by five local churches*



Ministers This Sunday

Fellowship Host: Colleen Carroll
Altar Flowers: Colleen Carroll
Nursery: Brittany Michael
Pre-School Teacher: Marci Hirai
Elementary Teacher: Colleen Carroll

Special Upcoming Dates

Potluck Sunday

October 28th during Fellowship. Main theme is Harvest and Fall Soup and Salads but please feel free to bring whatever you can. If you aren't able to bring anything, COME ANYWAYS! We would love to have you for fun and fellowship.

Blood Drive

October 24th-26th at Sitka Centennial Hall. You can make a difference for Alaska patients in need. One out of three individuals will need blood in their lifetime. Donate blood and give the gift of life.

Books and Conversations Series begins

Thursdays, 12:00-1:00pm at St. Peter's-by-the-Sea
Reading : On the Brink of Everything;
Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old by Parker J. Palmer

***If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it
1 Corinthians 12:26-27***

- Jane Seesz's friend Chris
- Jane Seesz's sister, Katie, recovering from back surgery
- Family and Friends of Richard Anderson, on his passing
- Our Sitka Fisherfolks, for harvest provision as they fish
- Those affected by Hurricane Florence in the East Coast and Typhoon Mangkhut in South East Asia
- Roger Hames Jr.
- Bonnie and Max Cottrell's brother-in-law John
- Dwight and Marilyn as Marilyn copes with fibromyalgia
- Christ and Rollo Pool's nephew, Jason Minor, awaiting kidney transplant
- Beth Haggerty, having new cancer treatment
- Kelly Gebler's Dad who has cancer
- Jim Kelly battling cancer
- Ada Honda for full recovery
- Mimi Goodwin, for healing
- Vicki Keele as she recovers from knee reconstruction*
- Chuck Bovee who went into skilled nursing care
- Tom and Joanne Ferris for strength and peace
- Ed, Pastor Robert Hattle's friend
- Mary Purvis who suffered from a stroke and her husband Bob
- Jackie Neros's sister as she celebrates grandparenthood for the first time
- Paula Salte as she travels to Washington to care for her elderly aunt. She needs us to pray for calmness, patience and for her settling in and caring for her aunt.
- Mary and Bob Purvis. Mary had a stroke and is at Virginia Mason Hospital. Prayers for healing and recovery.
- Maria, Don Seesz' daughter and the family with the passing of Maria's mother, Pauline.
- Kathy and Andy's daughter, Sarah who will be having her 3rd (hopefully last) reconstructive surgery
- For all those who deal with the "Let Down" of the summer season.
- Jenny Grant and all of her family. Jenny and her Aunt flew to Colorado to take her mom Barb to her Aunt Diana's home after having hip surgery last week. Barb hasn't been fully awake since her surgery. Her family recently met with hospice care which was helpful.
- Jenny's cousin's 13-year-old daughter (Barb's sister Diana's granddaughter) committed suicide. Please hold them in your thoughts and prayers.
- Prayers for Joanne Ferris and their family and friends in their time of grief; Tom Ferris passed away after his struggles with Cancer (October 12th)
- Family & Friends of Lessard family in their time of grief as well; Barbara passed away (October 5th)
- Prayers of Joy, Dan Jones released to return to Sitka
- Prayers of comfort for the family of our District Superintendent Rev. Carlo Rapanut for his mother's passing
- Prayers of Thanksgiving for Ruth Finsley's children.



Joys and Concerns

**Meal Train for Vicki Keele. Please take note of the email Marci Hirai sent out to support Vicki who is now at home. She has a short respite until her knee replacement operation. A visit is very welcome and meals, too! The site is www.takethemameal.com. Search: Keele / Password: church.*



Revisiting the Mission

As we celebrate Laity Month, it is but fitting that we also revisit what our church is about. This poster on our wall is a visual reminder that we are all a part of what God wants us to do as a faithful community. Our mission statement tell that we are: To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ; worship God passionately; foster spiritual growth; provide Christian support and service.

Where have we been?
Where is God leading us?

In a spirit of worship, prayer and discernment, may we all gather on October 28th after worship to start our conversations as we reflect on where we are as a community of faith and look forward to how we will continue to live our faith together as we fulfill the mission Christ has set us to do. For those who are able, please join a fast on all the three Fridays leading up to the 28th. God bless us all!

Who are the LAITY? What is the Ministry of the LAITY?

The word "laity" is another expression for "people of the congregation," and it is generally understood that they are not the ordained clergy, or the pastor of the church. The lay people, the old and the young are laity, are involved in the life of the church and their spiritual gifts are taken into account as ministries are identified.

As congregations identify the ministries of their church body, it is also important to consider the gifts of each individual, remembering that Christ is always the head of the body of believers, even over the pastor.



Laity Sunday is a time when the lay people of the church pause to consider their gifts and are intentional in offering these gifts in worship, and in other ways on this designated Sunday.

The ministry of the laity is the work of mission or ministry to which each believer is called. As Christians we are all called to this ministry or priesthood – not just clergy. Each of us has a responsibility to proclaim the Good News and reach out to others in love.

AUMC Prayer Focus this Week: Seward Memorial UMC, Pastor Jim Doepken

Oh Lord... as Charge Conference Season is upon us and as Advent just starts coming into view we cross over from one year to the next. Help us to look, with our Bishop, to this coming year being a "CrossOver Year." Let us plan to cross over from fear at the scarcity of our financial situations to seeing your abundance surrounding us. Let us put aside our frustrations at face of ministries that that might have outlived their usefulness and cross over to the hope that you will do a new thing for us and among us. Help us cross over from death to life, from darkness to light, from brokenness to wholeness found only in you. And as we do so, as we look ahead, help us see new ways to cross over the thresholds of our churches and out into the communities around us with the love and grace of Christ. Amen.