

Worshipping God in Christ, Welcoming all, working for justice and peace

Veradale United Church of Christ

The Messenger



Join us for our “Baby Shower for the Baby Jesus” on Sunday, January 5, 2020. Bring things needed by babies from birth to 5 years old (diapers, clothes, toys, formula.) Three Wise Ones and their wise friends will process into worship with our gifts and set them before our nativity. After worship we will have fellowship and the gifts will be taken to the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery to help the babies in need. This is a VUCC local mission.

JANUARY 2020

Thoughts from Your Pastor

On the first Sunday in January, we celebrate the Gospel of Matthew's story about the arrival of the wise ones. You'll remember that Matthew has no shepherds in his story and Luke has no wealthy Magi in his gospel. They tell the story from different perspectives because they are telling the stories for their communities. For Matthew it is important that his community understand that Jesus was missed by the next door neighbor yet known to the foreigner.

Thinking about us as travelers in this life. We, like the Wise Ones, try to follow the light we know in Jesus as we journey through this life. Sometimes the way gets foggy and it seems that God's light has vanished from us. We may even have trouble recognizing who is trustworthy and who is a danger as we travel.

The story of the Magi allows us to imagine that these people who were even strangers to each other were able to find a common language and purpose in their search for the Christ child. Along the way, they came to know each other. They collaborated with each other rather. They pooled their knowledge and resources and became a community.

The story is that the star was visible in the day as well as the night, something we know is possible with comets. This would mean that even the "star" the Wise Ones followed was also moving. For us, it is a reminder that Jesus asked us to follow him, to be on the move together. While on the journey, we collaborate, share our insights, sometimes lose our way, get back on the path together, and always look and listen for God's direction. With Jesus as our guiding star, we follow on the path that is leading us ever closer to the heart of God!

With blessings.

Pastor Gen

Prayer from St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

The world now is too dangerous
And too beautiful
For anything but love.

Love is a blessing.
So may your eyes be so blessed that you see God in everyone
Your lips - so you speak nothing but the truth
Your ears - so that you hear the cry of the poor

May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch becomes a sacrament
Your feet - so that you run to those who need you
And may your heart be so opened
So set on fire
That your love
Your love
Changes everything.

Amen.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL 'BUDGET' MEETING

We will hold our Annual 'Budget' Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, January 26th immediately after worship service.** Please plan to attend this important meeting. Every member has a vote and voice to be heard as we look forward toward our new church year with important information and decision making.

Questions: 926-7173 or contact a Council member.

WEEKLY TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER IN THE SANCTUARY



Remember we have silent prayer in the Sanctuary every Tuesday morning from 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **(resumes 1/7/2020)** where everyone is welcome. If you are unable to stop by the church, take a moment wherever you are to pray. There is also a 'Prayer Request' box for your requests!

DECEMBER FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our **Monthly goal is \$8,300. We had \$8,807** towards that goal as of **December 26th.**

If you have questions contact the office at 926-7173 Diane Smith, Treasurer.

Please plan to attend the Congregational 'Budget' Meeting on Sunday, January 26th!

FOOD BANK OFFERING

We will hold our next Food Bank Offering during worship service on **Sunday, January 26th.** Please remember to bring your food and other items for SVP and place them in the church foyer.

The commodity for the month of January is Tuna

Thank you for all your 2019 donations to SVP Food Bank.

Thank you for all the deliveries. Your help is much appreciated by the congregation.

Thank you all for the **Hope House Donations** all year and for all the helpers doing deliveries.
We donated items with a Value of \$50.00 on 12/3/19.

We will continue this VUCC local mission in 2020 so keep bringing in your donations.

COUNCIL MEETING January

Our January Council meeting is on **Monday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. If you have questions contact the office at 926-7173 or a council member.



CELEBRATE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY



Please join us in showing our unity and solidarity in creating a world where equal rights, respect, and access is not just a distant dream! **On Monday, January 20, 2020 from 10:00am through 2:00pm with MLK Day Parade and Activities in Spokane. See schedule below:**

Monday, January 20, 2020

10:00-11:00 a.m. – Unity Rally and March

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Resource Fair

Spokane Convention Center

334 W Spokane Falls Blvd.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY THURSDAY



FRIDAY

SATURDAY



January 2020



<p>Visit the Exhibit of: <u>'Righting the Wrong': Japanese Americans and World War II</u> at VUCC open Tuesdays 9am-1pm and 6:30-7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall</p>		<p>1 Happy New Year! OFFICE CLOSED.</p>		<p>2 1:00 pm Longevity Meeting (Hall)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 'Epiphany Sunday' <u>'Baby Shower for Jesus'</u> 9:30 a.m. Music 10:20 a.m. Praise 10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Hope House Offering) 11:45 a.m. Fellowship (Undecorate Church) Auction Items w/Forms DUE TODAY!</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9-9:30 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary <u>(Resumes)</u> 4 – 5pm Girl Scouts (Hall) <u>6:30-7:30 p.m. Bible Study (Resumes)</u></p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 10am – 2pm Days for Girls at LDS on 16th Ave.</p>	<p>10 2:45 – 3:45 pm Healthy Snacks Program</p>	<p>11 9:30 a.m. Saturday Coffee Fellowship @ VUCC</p>
<p>12 9:30 a.m. Music 10:20 a.m. Praise 10:30 a.m. Worship, 11:45 a.m. Fellowship 5 – 7 p.m. V.I.P. (Hall)</p>	<p>13 7:00 p.m. Council</p>	<p>14 9-9:30 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary 4 – 5pm Girl Scouts (Hall) Tuesday Vigil 5-6pm @ VUCC (Sanctuary) <u>6:30-7:30 p.m. Bible Study</u></p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. FLLC Meeting (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p>17 Midnight – 6am Saturday – Tuffin Bakers (Kitchen)</p>	<p>18 6am Tuffins <u>done</u> 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. BINGO, Chili Feed and Silent Auction (Fellowship Hall)</p>
<p>19 MLK Sunday 9:30 a.m. Music 10:20 a.m. Praise 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Fellowship</p>	<p>20 OFFICE CLOSED MLK DAY  Rally & Resources 10am – 2pm Downtown Spokane</p>	<p>21 9-9:30 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary 4 – 5pm Girl Scouts (Hall) <u>6:30-7:30 p.m. Bible Study</u></p>	<p>22 <u>Newsletter Deadline for February</u></p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Faith Action Network-2020 <u>Legislative Conf.</u> 8:30am – 3:30pm Spokane Valley United Methodist Church – 511 N. Raymond Rd.</p>
<p>26 9:30 a.m. Music 10:20 a.m. Praise 10:30 a.m. Worship w/ Food Bank Offering, 11:45 a.m. Fellowship (Birthday Cake) Annual Congregational 'BUDGET' Meeting (After Worship)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 9-9:30 a.m. Prayer in Sanctuary 4 – 5pm Girl Scouts (Hall) <u>6:30-7:30 p.m. Bible Study</u></p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p> <u>Chili Feed & Auction</u> January 18th 4-7pm @ VUCC</p>

Date	Liturgist	Communion Servers	Fellowship Folks
January 5	Joe McSwain	Cherall Anne & Diane	Last Names P-Z
January 12			Last Names P-Z
January 19			Last Names P-Z
January 26			Last Names P-Z

CHILE FEED, BINGO AND SILENT AUCTION!

We will hold a **Chile Feed with Bingo and Silent Auction on Saturday, January 18, 2020 from 4pm-7pm at VUCC**. Come join us and bring guests for the fun, food and an opportunity to win Bingo prizes and bid on all the great items in the Silent Auction! We are serving Chile, Corn Bread, Beverage, and Desserts. *Flyers are available to hand out. Auction Donation forms are on the foyer table and fellowship hall.* **Bring auction items with the form to the church by January 5, 2020.**

We need volunteers for the event and donations of auction items and/or foods if anyone is so inclined; per Jerry Brines. If you wish to donate we are using Chile in #4 large restaurant size.

SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the 2020

Eastern Washington Legislative Conference

‘Making Things Happen’

Saturday, January 25, 2020

There will be Workshops, etc.

**8:30 a.m. – 3:30- p.m. Spokane Valley
United Methodist Church
115 N. Raymond Rd.**

For information, contact
Malcolm Haworth – The Fig Tree – 509-535-1813
Scott Cooper – Catholic Charities – 509-358-4273

TO RSVP

Send suggested donation of **\$20**
5 or more attending in your group = \$15.00

To The Fig Tree . 1323 S. Perry St.
Spokane, WA. 99202

Call: 509-535-4112 or 535-1813

Email: event@thefigtree.org

FELLOWSHIP TIME (**REMINDER**)



January fellowship time will be brought to you by the letters **P through Z**. The kitchen committee will prepare coffee and juice every Sunday and will be available to direct clean-up. Folks with last names starting with the letters above are asked to provide snacks. If you have questions contact Barb Paro, Charlie Salt, Marilyn Closson, Lea Chilberg or Helen Bonser.

February: Last Names - A-E

March: Last Names – F-J

‘BABY SHOWER FOR BABY JESUS’

CELEBRATE EPIPHANY

We celebrate Epiphany on **Sunday, January 5th** with a **‘Baby Shower for baby Jesus’**

where we will bring gifts (birth to age 5) to be donated to Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery.

This is one of our VUCC local missions.



SATURDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Everyone is welcome to the **Saturday Coffee Fellowship** that will meet at **9:30 a.m. on January 11, 2020** at the church for delicious snacks, coffee, and other drinks. We will have a discussion of the book *“Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West”* by Dorothy Winkenden. If you need a book check with Becky Knapp.

Questions call Becky Knapp at 868-9513.

Hope to see you then and bring friends!

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY



RESUMES JANUARY 7, 2020

All are invited to join us as we hold our monthly every Tuesday evening by the fireplace in the fellowship hall. Our next meeting will be from **6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 7th**. Bring your bible and enjoy this fellowship time with us. Bring friends, relatives and neighbors! Questions contact the office or Pastor Gen who leads the Bible Study.

SMITHSONIAN'S TRAVELING EXHIBIT AT VUCC

Veradale UCC and Faith Leaders & Leaders of Conscience have been granted the exhibit of **‘Righting the Wrong’: Japanese Americans and World War II** with posters and information organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition and the National Museum of American History.

Come **visit this exhibit at the church open Tuesdays from 9am-1pm & 6:30pm-7:30pm** in the fellowship hall. Everyone is Welcome!

2020 PLEDGE CARDS ARE AVAILABLE

For Church Records Envelope # _____ (for offering)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

I plan to give \$ _____ each ☐ week ☐ month beginning _____

for an annual total of \$ _____

I understand that this commitment may be changed or my pledge may be discontinued at any time.

(I) would like to see this with groupings about including the church in my will.

Pledges are coming in for 2020 and are greatly appreciated as we plan for the coming year. There are blank Pledge Cards on the foyer table outside the sanctuary. Fill out the Pledge Card and return it to the office by mail or place it in the Sunday offering plate. If you have questions, contact the office at 926-7173.

NEED MINISTRY DUTIES SLOTS/DATES FILLED IN

The Ministry Duties Binder in the Sanctuary is in need of filling slots for the year 2020- January – December. **Please check your calendars and sign up where you may serve in our ministries.**

We use this sign up listing to help Pastor Gen and myself complete the weekly worship bulletins and for the monthly ‘reminders’ in the Newsletters.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Please have your information and articles to the office by **Wednesday, January 22nd for our February issue**. Office hours are 9:30am – 12:30pm Monday through Friday.

Let's continue to get our information out into the church and surrounding communities.

If you need help with your article contact me by phone or email and I will be glad to assist you. Office: 926-7173 or veradaleucc@gmail.com.

Thanks, Joyce

‘DAYS FOR GIRLS’

The next Days for Girls Sewing Event will be **Wednesday, January 9th from 10am-2pm at the LDS Church on 16th Ave.** next to Evergreen Middle School. You do not have to sew. There are other preparations to do such as cutting materials, tracing patterns, ironing pieces, putting cut pieces together for someone else to sew. **This is open to the public, please come join in!**

PICTURES – DECEMBER 2019



Plum Pudding 'Bell Choir' Leader – Jan Young



Plum Pudding – 'Bell Choir'



Marvin Wilson – Plum Pudding



Don Young – Plum Pudding



Plum Pudding Talent Show – Jan & Charlie



Plum Pudding Talent Show – Paul Fawcett



Plum Pudding – Talent Show – Marvin & Don



Plum Pudding – Goodies



Plum Pudding – Santa & Mrs. Claus – Merry Christmas!
December 22, 'Music Sunday' Choir and Bell Choir



December 24, Nativity Play Cast

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY

Joyce Walker - B	Jan. 5
Bonnie McPeck - B	Jan 10
Deb & Melodi Bradshaw-A	Jan 13
Jeanne Salisbury - B	Jan 18
Dale Fattu - B	Jan 18
Debbie Bradshaw - B	Jan 20
Charlie & Wayne - A	Jan 22
Amy Roberson - B	Jan 22
Bobbie N. Spencer - B	Jan 25
Joan Nelson - B	Jan 27

Celebrate!

NLD Dec
2019

November 18, 2019

To my friends at Vucc~

Sending you lots of cards to do with as you see fit - I sell these at Craft Fairs, etc for \$5⁰⁰ each but since they now belong to you, you can charge what you feel is fair.

I hope this will help to keep your doors open. I know everyone is working hard towards your goals, keep up the good work!

I miss all of you but adjusting well to my new life, including the Wet Western Washington Weather.

Please keep my cousin Judy in your prayers - she has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer that has spread to the kidneys & lung. Also my son-in-law who has lots of medical problems - just transferred from Spokane Valley hospital to nursing

Home-infection in last knee replacement and will be on antibiotics until Dec 23rd, prayers for my daughter, Jenny, who will be Darrin's Care taking, as well as working and keeping the home fire burning...

Wish I was there to help but I think the good Lord's saying this isn't part of my new Journey now.

With love & hugs
To all of you -

Lillian Pruitt

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Epiphany

Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 a.m.