

# The Link



## MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL MODERATOR—JOHN MARQUARDT

Hello friends, well, spring is here, and it brings with it all the joys and sensations of feeling refreshed and ready for a new beginning. In my mind, a new beginning is a good sentiment for where our church community is right now. In the upcoming weeks, we will be welcoming a new interim minister into the fold who will help lead us to our next permanent seated pastor.

We will be re-vamping our church website to give it a bold, new look so people who may be interested in learning more about who we are will feel excited about coming to check us out in person.

Lastly, after many months of uncertainty, there is reason to be hopeful that the worst of the pandemic is behind us, and we can once again enjoy each other's company in social gatherings and in-person meetings. The safety committee continues to monitor the statistics for Clark County and any mandates for personal protection issued from the state.

Currently, the trends are going in the right direction and the recommendation from the committee is that wearing masks or other PPE

is optional for parishioners. We encourage everyone to worship in whatever way makes them the most comfortable.

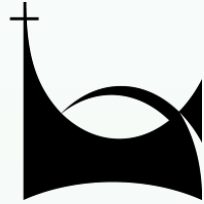
Our Council meeting for the month of March was productive.

- Our financial dynamic duo gave their reports and let us know we are currently ahead for the year so that was welcome news to start us off.
- Property and Finance reported on the upcoming work the County is planning for on NE 68<sup>th</sup> Street and how they have approached the church with an offer to purchase some street frontage for road widening.
- Our Mission and Outreach team is continuing to look into the potential boycott of Pillsbury products because of their operations within occupied lands, more to come on that.
- Christian Education reported on it being time to re-new background checks for anyone who engages with church youth.

*continued on next page...*



Vancouver  
United Church  
of Christ



*Sunday Worship: 10 am*

1220 NE 68th St • Vancouver, WA 98665  
www.vanucc.org—info@vanucc.org  
(360) 693-1476

*The office is currently closed*

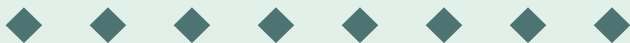
**Moderator:** John Marquardt  
Moderator@vanucc.org

**Office Administrator:** Elizabeth Spanring  
Elizabeth@vanucc.org

**Building Coordinator:** Leslie Chapman  
Leslie@vanucc.org

**Financial Secretary:** Jan Foulke  
Finsec@vanucc.org

**Treasurer:** Steve Bloodworth  
Steve@vanucc.org



The LINK is published the 1st week of each month. The **Due Date** for articles is the **4th Wed.** of the preceding month.

Submissions should have:

- Articles in WORD format or text in the body of an email.
- Pictures submitted as attached jpgs.
- Permission of the copyright holder for all copyrighted materials.
- Send articles to elizabeth@vanucc.org.

**MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL  
MODERATOR CONTINUED**

- Safety updated the council on efforts related to some potential upcoming training that would be coordinated with the Clark County sheriff's office.
- New business included an update from the Naselle group and a proposal for dispersing the remaining money in the fund. I would like to take a moment to personally thank the members of the Naselle Group for their diligent oversight of the generous gift that was bestowed upon us by the Naselle Church. Your efforts have been much appreciated.
- A copy of the full minutes of the meeting is available upon request. Requests can be made through the Council or the church office.

As we prepare ourselves for the upcoming Holy Week, I would like to encourage everyone to remember the true meaning of the season. It's so easy to get caught up in the trappings of the holiday, believe me, I know. I have yet to meet a chocolate bunny I didn't like and don't get me started on the eggs. But really, this time of year is about re-birth and resurrection. The natural world is coming back from the dark days of winter and Christians around the world gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It's a time to look forward to the festivities of the upcoming season and remember the sacrifices made for us. I wish you all a joyful and bountiful Easter season and hope you will be able to join us, either live or on Zoom for the upcoming services. Palm Sunday will feature our regular tradition of palm fronds and Dixie Land music. In closing, a simple question, how do you make Easter easier? Simple, put an "i" where the "t" is.

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



### Palm Parade on Palm Sunday

Please join the palm parade in the sanctuary on Sunday, April 10, as we celebrate with The Lewis River Dixie Band.

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### Easter Flowers



Hooray, the blossoms of spring are beginning to show in our community!

Please share some of your natural beauties with us for Easter morning. We will be decorating a wooden cross to be used in our 10 am service. We invite you to bring cut flowers on April 17 to celebrate Easter Sunday. We thank you! Worship Committee



### Special Offering for April Martha's Pantry

Martha's Pantry, our building partner, has been serving clients with HIV/AIDS and their families since 1984. Clients are referred by Case Management at Cascade Aids Project. However, no one who is in need is ever turned away. Food products are available to everyone in the community and currently make up about 65% of the people served each week.

Because of the great numbers of people served, the need for donations is greater than ever. The Pantry hours are Tuesdays 4–7 pm and Thursdays 10 am–1 pm.

To volunteer your time, please call 360- 695-1480 and speak to Leslie Chapman, interim director, or Pastor Ken Kerr, Board President. They are in need of volunteers on both Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

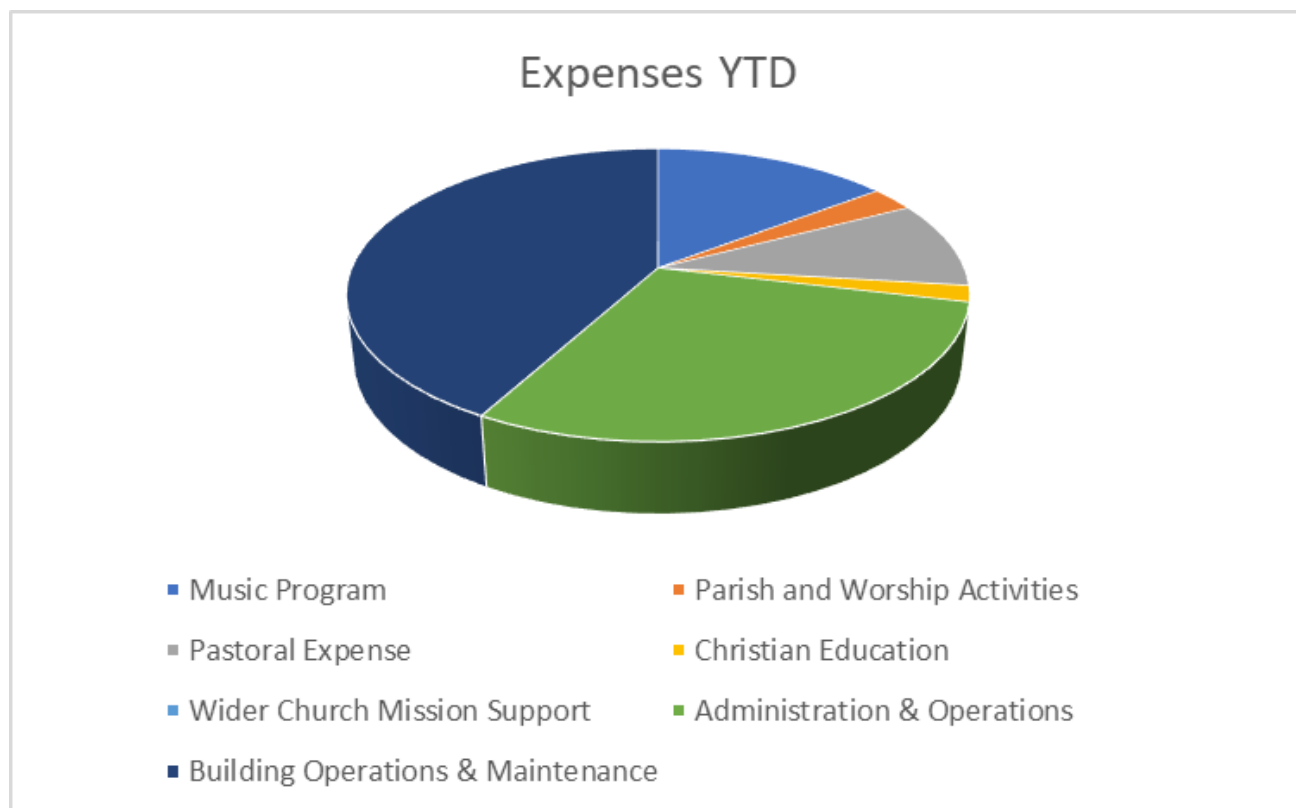
**To donate, please write your check out to our church and note "Martha's Pantry" in the memo line.**



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Our expenses continue to be well controlled. We finished the month of February on a positive note, thanks to your generosity. The numbers and chart are below. As always, please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached at [steve@vanucc.org](mailto:steve@vanucc.org) Thanks for your financial support of Vancouver United Church of Christ.

	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Music Program	4,052	25,423
Parish and Worship Activities	750	5,430
Pastoral Expense	2,655	88,504
Christian Education	493	4,550
Wider Church Mission Support	0	11,132
Administration & Operations	8113	47,184
Building Operations & Maintenance	11,626	75,848
Total Expense	27,689	25,8071



## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### Naselle Gift Provides Ukrainian Refugee Relief

The Naselle Workgroup met on Sunday, March 20, and decided to recommend to Council a donation of \$10,000 to the UCC Ukrainian Emergency Appeal. The United Church of Christ is working directly with the Hungarian Reformed Church Aid to provide food and shelter to Ukrainian refugees entering Hungary. As of March 15, the UCC Appeal has raised \$378,000 for Ukrainian refugees. If you would like to make your own contribution to this appeal you may do so at [Ukraine Emergency Appeal - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](https://www.ucc.org/ukraine-emergency-appeal)

The Naselle Workgroup also voted at their recent meeting to recommend to Council that the remaining funds from the Naselle gift (approximately \$9100) be moved into a special Naselle Humanitarian Assistance Fund managed by the Mission and Outreach Ministry to be used for local, national, and international humanitarian relief.

It is the hope of the Naselle Workgroup that this fund will be self-sustaining through ongoing gifts from our congregation, so we are always able to help people in need. You may do so by writing Naselle Humanitarian Assistance on the memo line of your check or by going to the Vanco website to make your donation.

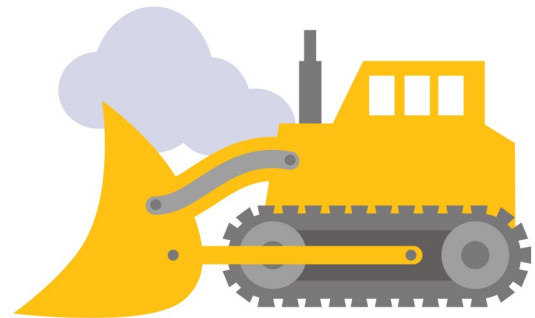
The Council approved both recommendations at their March 22 meeting, thus when the funds have been disbursed and transferred the Naselle Workgroup will disband. Many thanks to Darryl DeSilva, Brian Fick, Chuck Foulke, Brenda Gaston, Bert Martin, Jerry Mathis, Eric Pykonen, Dan Schnabel, and Jeanie Stolle, and for their participation in the Naselle

Workgroup. And our abundant thanks to the former Naselle church for providing the \$40,000 gift to our church in 2018.

Approximately half of this gift was allocated for humanitarian assistance and the other half funded the residing of the Centennial Wing last year. ~ Chuck Foulke

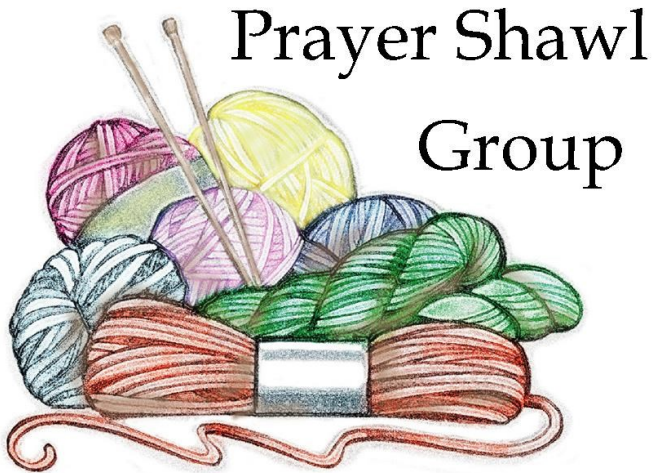
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### Clark County Purchases Church Land for 68th Street Project



With the widening of 68th Street between Hwy 99 and St. Johns Road, the county needed to purchase a small strip of the church's land. 68th Street is being widened to construct a sidewalk on the south side of the street and a bike lane on the north side of the street. The county made an offer of \$9700 for the land, the necessary landscape change on our property, and the relocation of our church sign. Property and Finance researched the cost to move our sign and the associated cost to move the electrical service at the sign and made a counter-proposal of \$13,250. The County recently accepted the P&F proposal, and the Council approved this purchase at their March 22 meeting. If you have questions about this project please contact Chuck Foulke at [cfoulke17@gmail.com](mailto:cfoulke17@gmail.com) or at 360-768-8687.

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



### Prayer Shawl Group

The Prayer Shawl Group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 10 am in Nettie Fries. The next meeting is April 14 and all knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us. Please contact Judy Walter for more info.

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IN OUR



### Thoughts and Prayers

Ken Kerr, Pastor  
*MCC of the Gentle Shepherd*

Nathan Klump  
*Lynn Chan's nephew*

The family of Ruth Odren  
*Mother of Linda Wear*

The family of Rena Olson  
*Loretta Railing's daughter*

The family of Irma Slocum



- April 3. . . . . Trent Corey
- April 3 . . . . . Robert Haverkate
- April 4 . . . . . Arlene Arnold
- April 4 . . . . . Rebekah Martin
- April 5 . . . . . Patti Jones
- April 11 . . . . . Ken Gaston
- April 12 . . . . . Jerry Mathis
- April 13 . . . . . Shirl Zent
- April 19 . . . . . Leslie Chapman
- April 20 . . . . . Dori Abernathy
- April 22 . . . . . Angel Caraballo
- April 22 . . . . . Anne McNally
- April 26 . . . . . Karsten Cowles
- April 29 . . . . . Ed Martin
- April 30 . . . . . Pam Osborne