



## CARE FOR OUR EARTH BE THE POLLUTION SOLUTION

### YES SPRING IS COMING!

As you may know, I took a cruise to the Caribbean to catch some sun when none was available here in Washington. In preparation, I asked my daughter to help me find a SUNSCREEN that would be safe and not harm anything in the ocean, especially coral. I wanted SPF 45. She reminded me that the container was just as important (no more plastic bottles left behind). This was not an easy assignment!

What are the problems with sunscreen? Most sunscreens on our store shelves have harmful chemicals in them. They are: Oxybenzone, Octinoxate, Octocrylene, 3-benzylidene camphor, 4-

methylbenzylidene camphor, Benzophenone-1, Benzophenone-8, OD-PABA, nano zinc oxide or nano titanium dioxide. No, you do not have to memorize this impressive list! It is estimated that up to 14,000 TONS of these chemicals get washed into coral reefs per year.



Sunscreen chemicals are known to harm GREEN ALGAE, CORAL, MUSSELS, SEA URCHINS, FISH, AND DOLPHINS in different ways. Not only are they found in the water after just using a small amount one time, but they are also found in human blood. How does it get in our water? It washes off if we go in the water to play or swim but also when we shower after using it. The worst way it gets there is through SPRAY ON SUNSCREEN. It gets in the sand or ground and goes from there. PLEASE DO NOT USE SUNSCREEN SPRAY as too much goes places other than your skin.

A few other things to know before we

get to what you can do. Sunscreen that says it is "Reef Safe" is not necessarily so as the government has not determined exactly what that term is to mean so any product can use the label. If you apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going in the water you can help prevent it from washing off. You will also need to consider packaging as more plastic bottles do not help us either. Well-intentioned regulations don't always work. Hawaii has banned the use of two chemicals on the list but has not figured out who is to monitor this and what penalties will apply. You will be generally safe choosing kids' sunscreen as they do not usually use the bad chemicals.



Consider these ideas to prevent sunburn: limit your time exposed to the sun, seek shade from 10 am to 2 pm, wear a sun hat, use UV glasses, and wear a UPF sun shirt or pants. →

I looked at pictures from our cruise and I sure didn't look stylish but I also did not get sunburned!



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I took three choices of sunscreen with me. I chose two sunscreens specifically for kids as they usually don't put all those chemicals in them. One was in a stick and I found it not useful to cover a lot of area. It was Simple Truth Kids Mineral Based sunscreen. It did a good job but is best for small places only. I tried an Alba Botanica kids sunscreen in a soft plastic squeeze bottle. I like it the best as it worked and went on more easily. The problem? You need a magnifying glass and good light to read all the ingredients which I did not do before buying. The third one I tried was All Good Mineral Sport Sunscreen but I don't exactly know what is in it, and it was the same consistency as the stick

and did not spread well. The positive is that they package it in tins, so NO plastic.

When you go shopping look for mineral-based, zinc, and titanium-based. Most of the common and advertised brands are not good choices. Here is a list of some good ones: All Good Mineral Sport Sunscreen, Love Sun Body Mineral Sunscreen, Supergoop Mineral Sheer Screen, Hawaiian Tropic Mineral Sunscreen, Unsun Mineral Tinted Face Sunscreen, Goddess Garden Mineral Sport Sunscreen, Babo Botanicals Clear Zinc Sunscreen, Bare Republic Mineral sunscreen for face, Badger Mineral Sunscreen.

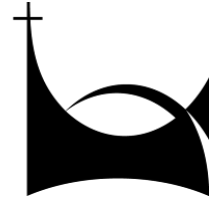
### Camp Adams Registration

Our Central Pacific Conference church camp is located in Molalla Oregon. Registration for this year's summer camps opened on January 15. There are camps for ages K-12th grade. Taller and smaller K-3rd grade

- Genesis seekers 2-4th grade
- Discoverers 5-6th grade
- Sojourners 7-8th grade
- Exodus 9-12th grade

To register go to [campadams.org](http://campadams.org). If you have any questions please email Gina at [CE@vanucc.org](mailto:CE@vanucc.org).

Vancouver  
United Church  
of Christ



Sunday Worship: 10 am  
1220 NE 68th St • Vancouver, WA 98665  
[www.vanucc.org](http://www.vanucc.org) • [info@vanucc.org](mailto:info@vanucc.org)  
(360) 693-1476

**Moderator:** John Marquardt  
[Moderator@vanucc.org](mailto:Moderator@vanucc.org)

**Building Coordinator:** Leslie Chapman  
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**Office Administrator:** Elizabeth Spannring  
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**Financial Secretary:** Jan Foulke  
[Finsec@vanucc.org](mailto:Finsec@vanucc.org)

**Treasurer:** Steve Bloodworth  
[Treasurer@vanucc.org](mailto:Treasurer@vanucc.org)

*The office is open Tuesdays & Thursdays  
10 am—2 pm*

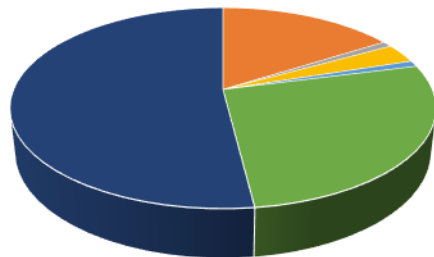


## Treasurer's Report—Steve Bloodworth

March was a good month for us overall. We did, however, have the first of our quarterly property insurance payments, as well as the annual Per Capita Dues for the Central Pacific Conference. This caused us to have a slight shortfall for the month of expenses over contributions/income. The shortfall for the month was in the amount of \$1,329.79. We do still have a surplus for the year, however. Thank you for your continued faithful support of Vancouver UCC!

	YTD	Budget
Pastoral Expense	0	66,466
Music Program	6,585	25,771
Parish and Worship Activities	370	3,630
Wider Church Mission Support	1,274	6,580
Christian Education	399	4,150
Administration & Operations	11,134	40,563
Building Operations & Maintenance	21,390	99,729
Total Expense	41,152	246,889

YTD Expenses



- Pastoral Expense
- Music Program
- Parish and Worship Activities
- Wider Church Mission Support
- Christian Education
- Administration & Operations
- Building Operations & Maintenance



### LGBTQIA+ Discussion

On June 11 after church in the back of the sanctuary, Carole Greenauer will host a conversation on our LGBTQIA+ friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome to come. Any content questions can be directed to Carole. [Join via Zoom.](#)



Get ready for some fun in the sun! Our church picnic/carnival will be at Hazel Dell Park on Sunday, July 16! More info to come!



If you're interested in joining the Prayer Circle to pray for our church community, please contact Lucie Murchison at [care@vanucc.org](mailto:care@vanucc.org).

The following requests were sent to the prayer circle in the past month.

Please pray for:

- Barb Harris, for continued healing
- Marilyn New, whose brother just passed away.
- Joan Barber, for her aunt Barbara Mardesich who has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma.
- Leslie Chapman and family for the passing of her father Dwight.

**The Prayer Shawl Group** meets on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is May 11 at 10 am and all knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us. Please contact Judy Walter for more info.



My Dear Church Family,

My entire family and I want to thank you all so very much for the beautiful cards, love, and outpouring of support you have shown us as we navigate life after the passing of my dad Dwight. We were so touched by the beautiful memorial service.

Thank you especially to Caroline Murphy for her words, all of you who spoke so highly of both of my parents, Christopher Schindler for the beautiful music, Sterling Roberts for his solo on Precious Lord and leading the choir and the wonderful choir for singing so beautifully. You have all enriched our lives with your love.

Leslie, Greg, Haydn, Tim, Leona, and Mackenzie Chapman



Society of Washington Artists to Host Largest Annual Spring Art Show in Southwest Washington

The Society of Washington Artists (SWA) is thrilled to announce its annual Spring Art Show, the largest art show in SW Washington, taking place from May 9 to May 13 at the Vancouver United Church of Christ.

According to Rick Jones, President of the SWA, "We are proud to showcase the incredible talents of our local artists at the largest art show in the Southwest Washington region. From traditional oil paintings to contemporary mixed media to 3D sculpture, there's something for everyone to enjoy."

Tuesday, May 9 • 2–7 pm

Wednesday, May 10 • 12–7 pm

Saturday, May 13 • 10 am–2 pm

[swavancouver.com](http://swavancouver.com)

### Spring Outdoor Cleanup

Come help spruce up the church grounds on May 4, 5, and 6 from 8:30 am until noon. Questions? Please contact Chuck Foulke.

# MAY EVENTS

- |           |   |           |  |
|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| <b>1</b>  | Taizé Group<br>7-8 pm: Clawson Corner                   | <b>14</b> | Lenten Series<br>11 am-12 pm: Sanctuary          |
| <b>4</b>  | Spring Outdoor Clean-up<br>8:30 am-12 pm                | <b>15</b> | Taizé Group<br>7-8 pm: Clawson Corner            |
| <b>5</b>  | Spring Outdoor Clean-up<br>8:30 am-12 pm                | <b>17</b> | Property & Finance<br>5:30-7:30 pm: Nettie Fries |
| <b>6</b>  | Spring Outdoor Clean-up<br>8:30 am-12 pm                | <b>21</b> | Lenten Series<br>11 am-12 pm: Sanctuary          |
| <b>7</b>  | Lenten Series<br>11 am-12 pm: Bradford Hall             | <b>22</b> | Taizé Group<br>7-8 pm: Clawson Corner            |
| <b>8</b>  | Taizé Group<br>7-8 pm: Clawson Corner                   | <b>23</b> | Council Meeting<br>7-9 pm: Nettie Fries/Zoom     |
| <b>9</b>  | Personnel Meeting<br>1-2 pm: Clawson Corner             | <b>28</b> | Lenten Series<br>11 am-12 pm: Sanctuary          |
| <b>11</b> | Prayer Shawl Meeting<br>10-11 am: Clawson Corner        | <b>29</b> | Taizé Group<br>7-8 pm: Clawson Corner            |
| <b>11</b> | Mission & Outreach Meeting<br>11 am-1 pm: Pastor Office | <b>29</b> | Memorial Day                                     |



- May 1 . . . . . Kristin Martindale
- May 5. . . . . Isaac Martin
- May 6 . . . . . Janet Melton
- May 7. . . . . Alona Steinke
- May 13 . . . . . Stephanie Pykonen
- May 17 . . . . . Todd Murchison
- May 21 . . . . . Laela Brittain
- May 24. . . . . Jessica Murchison
- May 25. . . . . Ruby Frank
- May 29. . . . . Zeke Levinson
- May 30. . . . . Beverly Crossman
- May 30. . . . . Jean Beary Stolle
- May 31 . . . . . Boean Marquardt