



POLLUTION SOLUTION FOR JUNE PICNIC TIME!

At this point, we have had a taste of the warm sun of summer and our thoughts are going to outings and picnics. Now is the time to prepare to use less plastic and to take home everything you take out for your picnic. Here are my suggestions based on what my sister and I have designed.

1. Have a permanent picnic basket or bag, preferably not plastic.



2. Load with the following items:
 - **Plates and Bowls** that are plastic you already have, Corelle that doesn't break easily, or compostable paper plates are available at most stores now. I found mine at Target which has a whole section of non-plastic options.
 - **Silverware** which could be reusable bamboo or metal leftover old tableware or purchased at places like Retails or Goodwill and used only for your picnic basket. See what kind of container you can find in the house. I did buy a plastic container years

ago (before my limit plastic life) but now I would find a fabric bag.

- **Cutting Knives and Serving Spoons** that are bamboo or maybe old but usable plastic that you want to replace with non-plastic. Usable plastic has no scratches that can leak chemicals.



- **Glasses and Cups** that are relegated from your current household plastic (replace with glass) or "look like plastic" glasses that are made from plant-based products. Use these as long as you can. A great alternative would be for each person to bring a non-plastic water bottle. If they don't all have one, now would be a good time to invest. Remember we don't want to be drinking water from plastic bottles that leach plastic into the water and thus into us!!
- **A Tablecloth** that is cotton or other non-plastic material. We have had the same one for years and it always brings up many good memories when we put it on the table.
- **Napkins** should be cloth or old hand towels, anything that is not single use.
- Container to load dirty dishes in to bring home to wash and return to your picnic basket. Get creative with this.
- **Garbage Bags** again that are compostable for anything dirty that needs to come home.
- **Food Bags** that are not single-use like the ones you can buy that are silicone and can be used many times.

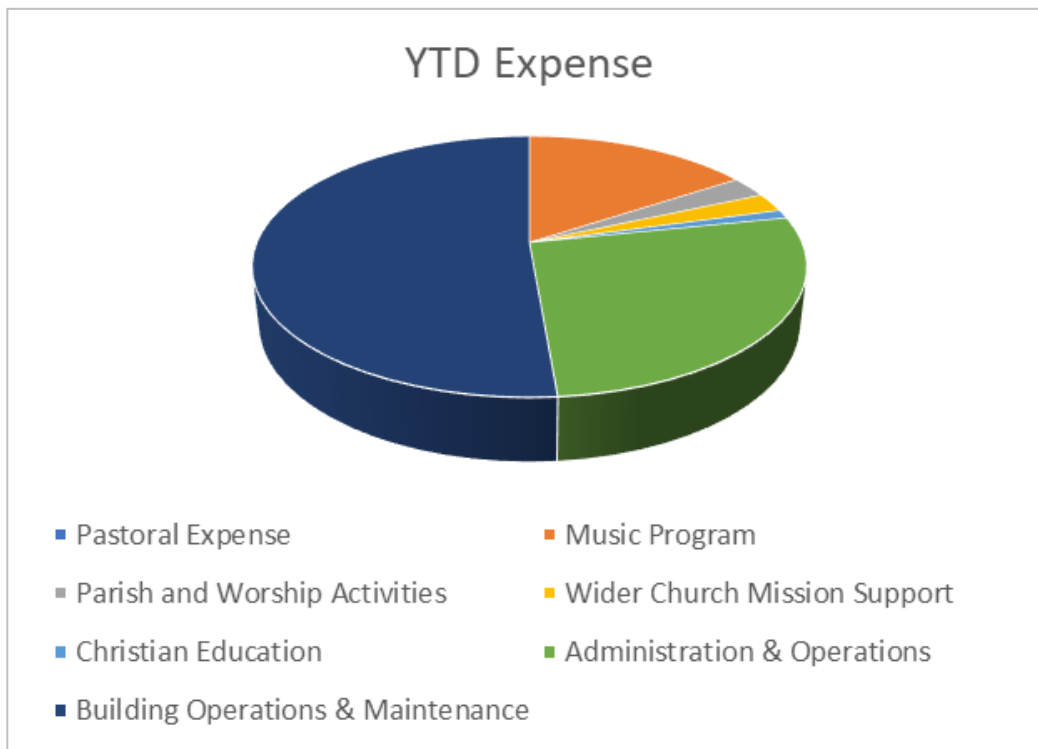
3. It is obviously easier to use plastic throw away but those days should be gone. With this plan, you can come close to having a non-plastic nature-loving picnic. HAVE FUN!

Treasurer's Report—Steve Bloodworth

We enjoyed another good month in April. Our expenses remain well controlled and congregational giving has remained faithful. We made our annual payment to one of our copyright/streaming licensors, helping us to keep compliant in that regard. Our electric bill is on the way down in that time between the cold winter months and the warmer summer months. Because of your faithful giving, we had a nice surplus for the month to add to our surplus for the year. Thank you for your continued support of your church, especially as we head into the summer months when folks will be away.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you have an interest in becoming our next Treasurer.

	YTD	Budget
Pastoral Expense	0	66,466
Music Program	8,645	25,771
Parish and Worship Activities	1,434	3,630
Wider Church Mission Support	1,274	6,580
Christian Education	584	4,150
Administration & Operations	14,760	40,563
Building Operations & Maintenance	28,178	99,729
Total Expense	54,875	246,889



MISSION AND OUTREACH NEWS



Mission and Outreach has been very pleased with the participation of our church in the discussion of Brooks Berndt's book "Cathedral on Fire". We have three very lively discussion groups that will conclude with a large group action-oriented discussion on May 28 right after church.

M and O will continue the discussion to hopefully increase awareness around the issue of climate change.

M and O is seeking to involve our church with the greater community of Vancouver. We are currently registering for the upcoming summer event season. We plan on having booths at the Vancouver Pride Festival, July 8 and the Peace and Justice Fair in September. Both events will be in Esther Short Park. We will be looking for volunteers to spend some time in the booths this summer. This year, we are sharing the booths with Martha's Pantry and the Metropolitan Community Church. We will share the cost of participating as Gold Level sponsors. It is a good example of how we are stronger together.

Mission and Outreach continues to evolve. We are finding ways to be useful to our church and to our greater community. If you feel that calling, please come join us!

Respectfully, Wendy Wright



A Celebration of Life for Christine Zachary, wife of Christopher Schindler, will be held on Sunday, June 11 at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary. A reception will follow the service in Bradford Hall.



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

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

Please pray for:

- Christopher Schindler, whose wife Christine just passed away
- 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..

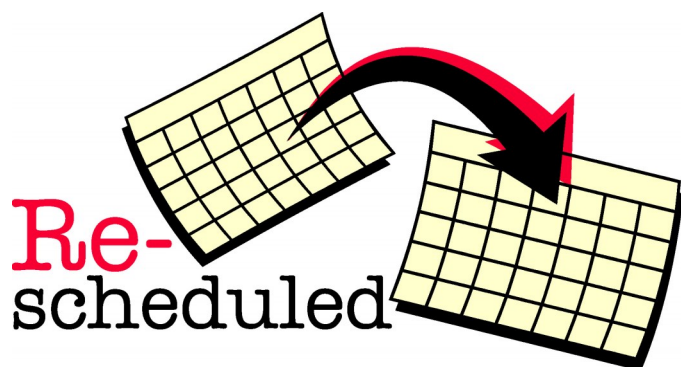
Save the Date! September 23

Time to be determined



The Safety Committee has scheduled a training session for members and anyone who wishes to learn First Aid, CPR, and how to use an AED. For those who took the class on October 10, 2019. Your card will expire on this date. There will be a sign-up sheet on one of the back tables in the Sanctuary by the end of September.

At this time, we will use Zoom for the classes. The cost is \$50. The Safety Fund will cover the costs, but we would encourage everyone to make a \$50 donation to the Fund. Faye Zapeda will again be the instructor. Questions? Contact Ken Rowe, Chair of Safety Committee at Safety@vanucc.org.



Due to scheduling conflicts, the LGBTQ+ Discussion planned for June 11 will be held in July. Stay tuned for a new date. If you have any questions please contact Carole Greenauer



Olivia Martindale is graduating from Skyview High School and will be attending Oregon State University in the fall.

Annelise McNally is graduating from the International Baccalaureate Program at Columbia River High School and will be attending Portland State University this fall.

Mylia Pax is graduating from ITech Preparatory, and Clark College, and will be attending the University of Hawaii-Manoa in the fall.

Kristen Walter, granddaughter of Judy Walter, will be graduating from the University of Washington with a degree in art and starting her masters program this summer at Seattle Pacific University.

The Prayer Shawl Group meets on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is June 8 at 10 am and all knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us. Please contact Judy Walter for more info.



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!



Clark Public Utilities is Offering More Community Solar -- by Don and Alona Steinke

Everyone is invited to purchase *one or more* solar panels which Clark PUD will install on publicly owned buildings as part of a large project.

You can ask Clark PUD to put you on their non-binding waiting list in a simple email to:

CommunitySolarEast@clarkpud.com

REASONS AND BENEFITS

- We have a Christian imperative to protect future generations from the consequences of burning fossil fuels.
- You will receive full credit for all the electricity produced by your share of the project.
- No need for you to mess with your roof or get bids from multiple contractors.
- Large projects achieve economies of scale.

As Buckminster Fuller once said . . . “To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.”

Or in our words “To transition away from fossil fuels, we first need to first replace them with something cleaner.”

The more solar panels we install everywhere, the less Clark PUD needs to run its fossil fuel power plant and the cheaper the panels become.

Clark Public Utilities is now receiving contractor bids, and expects to choose the lowest responsible bid by June 6.

The payback time for community solar will be about 12.5 years. If you move away from Clark County, you can sell or give your credits to someone else in the County. We'll need 600 community solar projects similar to the one they are currently developing in order to meet demand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A huge THANK YOU to:

- Camas-Washougal Port Commissioner Cassi Marshall for championing this effort on port buildings.
- PUD staff for leveraging a small project for low-income residents into this much larger project. Brilliant.
- [Olympia Community Solar](#) for breaking the log jam by introducing HB 1814 and to Representatives [Berry](#), [Bateman](#), [Duerr](#), [Macri](#), [Ramel](#), [Paul](#), [Bergquist](#), [Fitzgibbon](#), [Pollet](#), Harris-Talley, and [Kloba](#) for sponsoring it. Also thank you Rick Marshall !



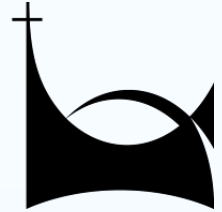
[Image by brgfx on Freepik](#)

Summer Ukulele Lessons for Kids

Beginning June 18, kindergarten thru 12th graders are invited to learn with Claudia Martin in the multi-age classroom during Godly Play time. There will be several ukuleles available to use during class and to reserve one please contact Gina at CE@vanucc.org.



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 open Tuesdays & Thursdays
10 am—2 pm*

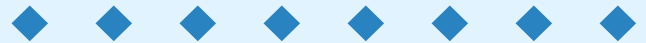
Moderator: John Marquardt
Moderator@vanucc.org

Office Administrator: Elizabeth Spannring
Elizabeth@vanucc.org

Building Coordinator: Leslie Chapman
Leslie@vanucc.org

Financial Secretary: Jan Foulke
Finsec@vanucc.org

Treasurer: Steve Bloodworth
Treasurer@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.

June 3	Sue Benson
June 3	Bert Martin
June 4	Dahlia Martin
June 5	Brenda Houchen
June 7	Claude Blair
June 7	Liam Holden
June 10	Lauren Hubbell
June 12	Virginia Dunbar
June 12	Cindy McNally
June 12	Allison Schnabel
June 13	Sterling Roberts
June 14	Rory Martindale
June 17	Doraine Kohler
June 18	Kimberly Lewis
June 19	JoAnn Kersavage
June 21	Jeff Schnabel
June 25	Loretta Railing
June 26	Lynn Chan
June 29	Haydn Chapman

JUNE EVENTS

- 1 Choir Practice • 7–8:30 pm: Sanctuary
- 4 Picnic Planning • 11 am–12 pm: Clawson Corner
- 7 Choir Rehearsal • 7–8 pm: Sanctuary
- 8 Prayer Shawl Meeting • 10–11 am: Clawson Corner
- 8 Mission & Outreach Meeting • 11 am–1 pm: Sanctuary
- 11 Christine Zachary Memorial Service • 2–4 pm: Sanctuary, Brad. Hall
- 13 Personnel Meeting • 1–2 pm: Clawson Corner
- 16 Martha's Pantry Community Dinner • 6–8 pm: Bradford Hall
- 18 Father's Day
- 19 Juneteenth—Federal Holiday
- 20 Youth Group Service Project • 5–7 pm: Martha's Pantry
- 21 Property & Finance • 5:30–7:30 pm: Nettie Fries
- 26 YMCA Summer Camps • M-F, 8 am–3 pm: Bradford Hall
- 27 Council Meeting • 7–9 pm: Nettie Fries/Zoom