

The Link



August

2024

Pastor's Message—Rev. Steve King



I want to use my space here this month to say a profound thank you for all of your support as my family and I have been dealing with the health of my father. We still don't know what his high pain levels are caused by, but they have finally started to come down to a manageable level.

First and foremost, thank you to Steve Bloodworth for filling in for me in the pulpit while I was gone. I was able to catch it on Zoom, and it was a wonderful sermon. This is a testament to the hard work and talent that have been shaped by our LEAP ministry training program.

I also feel a deep gratitude to all of you for your kind words and prayers. Family comes first for us, and not having to worry about leaving our church for a couple of days was a huge relief. I was able to spend time with him without guilt, and that is a blessing beyond measure.

-Pastor Steve

Beginning in September, we will start a new post-worship event. *Sermon Talkback* will be a chance for you to talk with Pastor Steve about the day's sermon. Whether you have comments, questions, or just want to see what other people thought about it, you are welcome to join us. We will meet at approximately 11:15 am at the tables in the back of the sanctuary. Hope to see you there!

UPCOMING

Pastor Steve's work week is typically Sunday through Thursday. You can easily schedule appointments with him by at his church office by using his Calendly profile

<https://calendly.com/pastorsteve-vucc>.

*The church office is open Tues & Thurs
10 am to 2 pm.*

Vancouver
United Church
of Christ

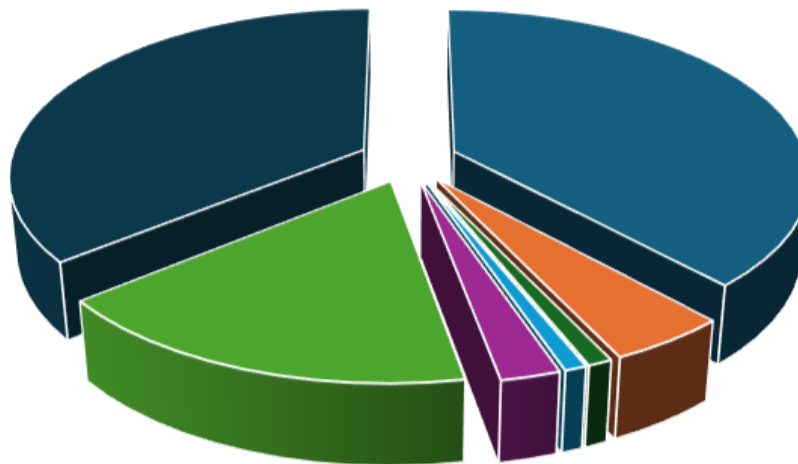


Sunday Worship: 10 am
1220 NE 68th St • Vancouver, WA 98665
www.vanucc.org—info@vanucc.org
(360) 693-1476

TREASURER'S REPORT—CHUCK FOULKE

Year-to-Date, we have received \$117,988 in income and have had expenditures of \$135,594, thus we have a year-do-date deficit of \$17,606. These deficit expenditures are covered by reserves from prior fiscal years.

	YTD	Budget
Pastoral Expense	\$51,841	\$107,141
Music Program	\$6,366	\$26,541
Parish and Worship Activities	\$1,300	\$3,400
Wider Church Mission Support	\$1,162	\$6,300
Christian Education	\$3,160	\$8,050
Administration & Operations	\$23,097	\$42,921
Building Operations & Maintenance	\$48,668	\$102,041
Total Expense	\$135,594	\$296,394



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



School Supply Drive for Martha's Pantry
 We will be collecting school supplies for Martha's Pantry clients from now until mid-September. The collection box will be upstairs against the wall as you enter. Click here for a [Printable Supply List](#) that you can take with you to shop or pick up a Supply List from the table in the hallway. Thank you!

NATIVE MEADOW PLANS



Members of the church youth group have laid down a biodegradable film west of the mini forest to kill the grass and weeds. Once the site is ready, either in the fall of '24 or the fall of '25, we will plant a native meadow that is drought-tolerant and supportive of pollinators.



- August 2 Marjorie English
- August 2 Doris Fletcher
- August 6 Holly Chan
- August 6 Pat Sutherland
- August 9 Jan Schnabel
- August 10 Rachel Corey
- August 10 Scott Jones
- August 11 Sandy Mathis
- August 16 Angela Hill
- August 22 Randy Summers
- August 24 Marilyn Jones
- August 29 Briar Chan
- August 30 Josiah Renner



Pollution Solution



Do you drink water out of plastic bottles? Previous research (2019) thought that you would be drinking about 250 to 350 nano plastic pieces in a 1 liter plastic bottle.

New research just published which used a laser system to detect plastic particles in water found roughly 240,000 detectable plastic fragments in a typical liter of bottled water. For comparison, a human hair is about 70 micrometers thick. About 10% of the detected plastic particles were microplastics, and the other 90% were nano plastics (less than 1 micrometer in size).

Remember that the longer the water sits in a plastic bottle, the more plastic fragments leach into the water. Add to that the possibility that those bottles of water may have sat in the sun or high temperatures for long times. Picture the truckloads of bottled water taken to disaster areas. Increased heat increases the rate at which plastic particles leach into the water.

Still want to drink that water in the plastic bottle?

Don't!! Trade in any plastic bottles you use to take water with you and buy metal bottles. Never buy another plastic bottle of water again.

The water from your tap also has plastic fragments in it. They are everywhere!

You can purchase a glass countertop water filter system called "LifeStraw" from Amazon that is certified to filter a ton of bad stuff but super important, it filters out any plastic particles in your tap water. Most filter systems do not meet this standard including the Brita systems. I have not looked at filter systems that attach to your water faucet. Maybe one of you can. I am hoping this reaches you and all who you care about. Share it!

~ Pat Sutherland



IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING

11:15 AM—12:15 PM, SANCTUARY
SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 11, 18, 25

During the spring of 2023, a group of 30 church members read and discussed "Cathedral on Fire" a book written by our former Pastor, Brooks Berndt. Now is the time to return to the list, gather one or more groups of people, and start working on the top environmental issues.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR AUGUST

We will be supporting the Refugee Resettlement Program administered by Lutheran Community Services this month.



Through this program, refugees and immigrants are helped with housing, jobs, learning English, navigating educational and public systems, and building connections in the area. Please indicate your offering is for "Refugee Resettlement" by noting this on your check, online donation, or envelope.



Vancouver Peace and Justice Fair

PEACE AND JUSTICE FAIR-SEPTEMBER 14

We need your help to staff a booth at the Peace and Justice Fair! This is a great community event, and you don't want to miss it.

The Fair will be held at Esther Short Park on Saturday, September 14. We need volunteers from 8 am (set-up) until 4 pm (take-down). There should be plenty of people staffing the booth during event hours (9 am to 3 pm) to give you a chance to tour other booths during your shift.

We especially need commitments for set-up and take-down. This includes transporting materials and setting up the booth (canopy, tables, etc.). Event volunteers will be on-site to guide you.

Please contact Karen Summers to sign up for a shift(s) at summerslo@comcast.net.



Thanks to all for another great picnic! And a special thanks to those who put it together.

~ Thanks, Gina Marquardt.



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.

August Meetings & Events

August 4 – Implementing Ideas ▪ 11:15 am-12:15 pm, Sanctuary

August 8 – Prayer Shawl Meeting ▪ 10-11 am: Clawson Corner

All knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us. Please contact Judy Walter for more info

August 8 – Women's Group Practice ▪ 7-8 pm: Sanctuary

August 11 – Implementing Ideas ▪ 11:15 am-12:15 pm, Sanctuary

August 12-16 – YMCA Summer Camp ▪ 8 am-3:30 pm: Bradford Hall, Labyrinth

August 12 – Safety Committee ▪ 6-7 pm: Zoom Meeting

August 13 – Personnel Meeting ▪ 12-1 pm: Clawson Corner

August 14 – Confirmation ▪ 6-7 pm: Multi-Age Room

August 15 – Women's Group Practice ▪ 7-8 pm: Sanctuary

August 18 – Implementing Ideas ▪ 11:15 am-12:15 pm, Sanctuary

August 19-23 – YMCA Summer Camp ▪ 8 am-3:30 pm: Bradford Hall, Labyrinth

August 21 – Property & Finance ▪ 5:30-7:30 pm: Nettie Fries

August 22 – Women's Group Practice ▪ 7-8 pm: Sanctuary

August 25 – Implementing Ideas ▪ 11:15 am-12:15 pm, Sanctuary

August 27 – Council Meeting ▪ 7-9 pm: Nettie Fries

August 28 – Confirmation ▪ 6-7 pm: Multi-Age Room

August 29 – Women's Group Practice ▪ 7-8 pm: Sanctuary