



SEPTEMBER 2026



*For everything
there is a season*

AND A TIME FOR EVERY MATTER
UNDER HEAVEN: A TIME TO BE BORN, AND
A TIME TO DIE; A TIME TO PLANT, AND A
TIME TO PLUCK UP WHAT IS PLANTED; A
TIME TO KILL, AND A TIME TO HEAL; A TIME
TO BREAK DOWN, AND A TIME TO BUILD UP;
A TIME TO WEEP, AND A TIME TO LAUGH;
A TIME TO MOURN, AND A TIME TO DANCE;
A TIME TO CAST AWAY STONES, AND A TIME
TO GATHER STONES TOGETHER; A TIME TO
EMBRACE, AND A TIME TO REFRAIN FROM
EMBRACING; A TIME TO SEEK, AND A TIME
TO LOSE; A TIME TO KEEP, AND A TIME TO
CAST AWAY; A TIME TO TEAR, AND A TIME
TO SEW; A TIME TO KEEP SILENCE, AND
A TIME TO SPEAK; A TIME TO LOVE, AND
A TIME TO HATE; A TIME FOR WAR,
and a time for peace

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-8



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Church,

We are headed to Exodus this season.
The story of the people becoming a nation is a true epic story.

It also starts this rotating tale of the Israelites as people who deal with the same struggle over, and over, and over again. One of their main struggles in Exodus and throughout the journey to the land of Caanan is trusting God. They struggle to trust God to free them from slavery. They struggle multiple times to trust that God will keep them alive in the desert. They struggle to trust that God will give them the land they were promised. Spoiler alert: eventually God decides that because of their lack of faith none of the adults that left Egypt were going to get to actually enter the promised land. Instead, they would live as nomadic people until the generation died off – Moses included.



When you read the story, it is baffling how the people could have such little faith. Look at what God continues to do! But when we read a story, it is easy to forget they are *in* the story. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were hundreds of years ago before these people. The God of their ancestors has been mostly silent. Throughout Exodus, they are still getting to know who this God is. Furthermore, miracles are great, but they can be easy to forget when you are living in the real world. We see God all over the book of Exodus, but it's a short book. It takes about an afternoon to get through it start to finish. The first chapter is around 400 years. Moses is 80 years old when he is given the call to lead the people out of Egypt. He has to get there, then he has to go through all the plagues, which don't happen in a single day. Then they spent another 18 months or so on the worst family road trip in history. God shows up in every chapter, but not in every day.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

When we reflect on stories, we tend to cut out the middle. It's very much like the common saying, "the days are long, but the years are short." When we are outside the story, we get the short years in which we can easily make all the connections. When we are inside the story, we get the long individual days, those are hard. As a reader, I know the end of the story I'm reading. In the middle of my own, it is a mystery. Even when I do believe God will show up (and I do), I have no idea when, where, in what way, and what happens in the meantime. Reading Exodus is a bit like an exciting movie, one I would not want to live without having the script ahead of time.

I used to be really hard on the Israelites when I thought of them as characters in a story. Then I started to think about them as real people. I have my own story about needing God to provide food in the wilderness. Of working so hard to realize a dream only to run into a metaphorical sea that needed to be parted. And God has provided. Again and again. And just like them, I still struggle with doubt. Because God shows up every year, but sometimes God feels absent in the long days.

Thankfully, God is not us. Throughout the Bible, people are filled with doubt. So God constantly reminds us who God is and what God has done in the past, and that God is still here. Patient, loving, forgiving, present. In the messy middle of life. Thanks be to God. Amen.

It is a joy and honor to be your pastor,

Pastor Leslie

I am always available for you if you need prayer, someone to listen,
or a friend to grab coffee with.

Please reach out if myself,
or our congregation,
can support you.



FAMILY SPOTLIGHT



This month's Family Spotlight is on WUMC members Judy Neblock and Clark & Susi Nichols.



JUDY

When the Matriarch of this family was asked how she came to worship at WUMC she said, "Susi brought me and I stayed because I loved Pastor Leslie's message." She kept coming back every Sunday after that with Susi and Clark. After a couple of years of regular attendance she and her daughter, Susi and son-in-law, Clark all decided to become members.

Judy spends her leisurely time gardening (she could be a Master Gardener, truth be told), doing jigsaw puzzles with her girls, playing Words with Friends and reading. She just finished reading her favorite author, Catherine Ryan Hyde's latest book Come Back to the World. Judy has been known to binge watch "my shows" and is currently working her way through *Bergerac*.

Her four-legged roommates, pup, Suki and cat, Simon bring her joy.

Judy is Mom to daughters Susi, Crystal & Shelley & sons Flip & Kenny. She has 15 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and 1 brand new great-great grandson! Judy shares that she has been a widow for longer than she was married. And her Motto is: "Just put one foot in front of the other."

The whole original Grubb clan is shown below from days gone by ❤️



BACK IN THE DAY
THE O.G.
GRUBB CLAN



FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

SUSI & CLARK

When Susi was asked how she came to walk through those front doors at WUMC for the first time she recalled that her daughter suggested they try it out one Sunday a few years ago. She came to church and stayed because Gladys and Cleta were so welcoming and she also loved Pastor Leslie's message. Susi, her Mom, Judy, and her husband of 27 years, Clark, became members this year. Clark says that he has enjoyed getting to know many of the congregants here and is thankful for the warm welcome he continues to receive.



When Clark answered the question about who had been an inspiration to him in his life, he said "My maternal grandmother was the biggest influence on my spiritual life. My Mom passed when I was just 11 years old; she was only 37. I spent every summer after that throughout my teenage years with my maternal grandparents in Idaho. It helped me deal with losing my mom and it helped them manage the loss of their daughter. We attended the Kendrick Assembly of God Church and at the age of 14. I was baptized in the Clearwater River near Lewiston, Idaho." Something Clark's grandma told him years ago has stuck with him. She told him that if he ever turned his back on Jesus, he could always ask Him back into his heart because He will never turn His back on us. Scripture backs up her advice: "He will never leave you nor forsake you." *Deuteronomy 31:6*

The Nichols' joined the Volunteer Church Cleaning team, signing up every month to keep the church "looking good for Sunday" as Susi said. She has a heart for volunteering for her church and said she particularly enjoyed volunteering at last year's Holiday Bazaar because it made her happy to see the community coming together and loving her church's hard work putting together the annual fundraiser.

Clark played basketball in high school and college and got hooked on going to the gym. Every day if it's possible, before he goes to work he goes to the gym. He said it all began in high school with lifting weights to, as he says: "get bigger, stronger, and faster! And now it's part of my daily routine! I just function so much better physically, mentally, and emotionally. It's my happy place!" Clark's a hard-working commercial truck driver with 32 years of experience. For the last 15 years he's been driving tanker trucks hauling fuel, most recently for Carson Oil.

For fun, Susi likes gardening, jigsaw puzzles, playing board games with friends and family, relaxing on the couch with her pups, sitting in the bleachers at professional and high school sports games, like her youngest daughter Reese's softball games.

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

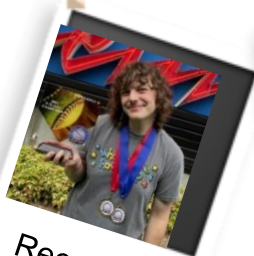
Susi says her proudest accomplishment so far has been her Special Education teacher career; even though at one point she thought she may want to be a Corporate Lawyer. She is currently serving as a Special Ed Teacher at Union High School in Camas. She spent eight years as a para-professional prior to becoming a certified instructor. She has been teaching and working with students with disabilities for a total of 35 years.

Clark didn't just get the girl, he inherited a loving family with children who for three decades plus now have looked to him for the love and support he happily gives. They have three kids: Brittney-38, Nathan-33 and Reese-25 and four grandkids: Ryder-18, Jordan-17, Caleb-13 and Ellie-10. Lest we forget about the rest of the family; Oscar, Maggie & Bae Bae.

Susi's 'Bucket List' is to travel! Travel to Spain. Travel to France. Travel to Italy.

Her next travel adventure will be to travel in November to Kingwood, Texas to attend her daughter, Brittney's wedding!

FAMILY PHOTO DUMP 😊



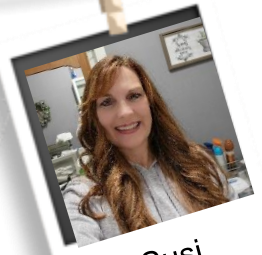
Reese



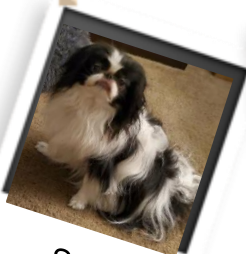
Brit * Clark * Susi
Nate * Jordan



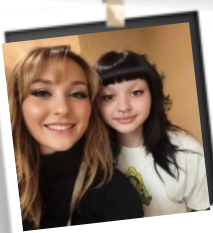
Oscar
Maggie & Bae Bae



Susi



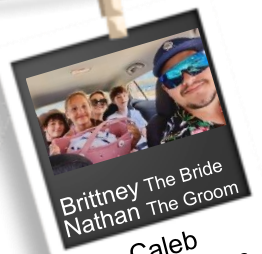
Suki



Brittney & Ryder



Simon



Brittney The Bride
Nathan The Groom
Caleb
Ellie & Jordan

WE COMPOST



Workshops

We Compost: Community Action for Food Waste
Wednesday ~ September 16 ~ 6:00-7:00 pm
Washougal United Methodist Church

Turn your food scraps into something valuable! Join us to learn how Clark County's We Compost Community Hubs make it easy and free to keep food waste out of the landfill. You'll discover where to drop off your scraps, how the program is making a difference in our community and simple tips to prevent odors, fruit flies, mold and other "ick factor" challenges. Participants will receive a free kitchen compost pail while supplies last.

[Click Here](#)
To Register

Zero Waste: Everyday Ways to Cut Household Trash
Thursday ~ September 24 ~ 4:30-5:30 pm
Camas Public Library
625 NE 4th Avenue ~ Camas)

Discover simple, practical ways to reduce waste throughout your day, especially at home. This one-hour class introduces easy waste reduction habits, including smart shopping, reuse techniques and recycling tips. Learn how small changes can reduce your household's trash and environmental impact. This workshop is perfect for anyone looking for realistic ways to live more sustainably.

[Click Here](#)
To Register

You can also go to: <https://clarkcountymcomposts.org/workshops> and register to attend these or the many others that are offered.

Happy Composting!



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



JOE WITTLER	1 st
LEAH JUSTESEN-BROWN	2 nd
KATHY MCKINLEY	6 th
JEAN LEAVITT	20 th
MARK GUZ	24 th
SHARRY MONROE	30 th



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

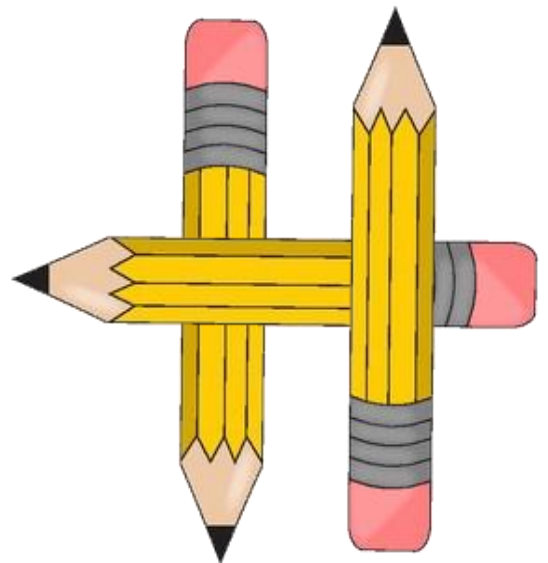


BILL & DEBBIE REVETT
SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

SCHOOL SUPPLY MISSION

The WUMC 2026-27 Annual Hathaway Elementary School Supply Drive was once again a resounding success. Thank you from my heart for your gift to the children.

Chuckie Smiley



It's A PERSONAL MISSION

by
Sandy Havrelly ~ WUMC Congregational Care Coordinator

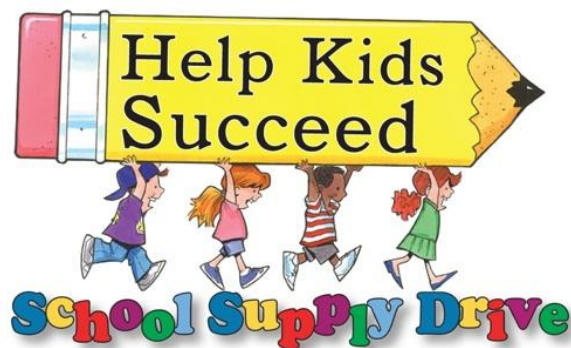
I am personally and continually blessed as I watch our congregation “step up to the plate” to help those we can. Hathaway School has been in a long-time partnership with WUMC, helping where and when we can. We have supplied school materials for those whose families cannot afford to purchase the requested items.

I believe I've shared this story once before, but I think it is worth re-telling. I have a deep passion for helping children that are in a position to be unable to help themselves. I believe it stems from this episode in our (*Chuckie & Cleta and Rosi & Grover & Jim & Me*) mother's life that she shared with us. Our mother moved to Clark County from South Dakota in the late '30's...dust bowl time... with her Grandmother and Grandfather. At some point they had to live in the Clark County “poor house.” It was located in Hazel Dell and now serves as the County Extension Offices. She told us how badly she felt walking to school being harassed because she came from the ‘poor house.’ Those episodes left her feeling like she didn't belong.

They then moved from the “poor house” to Washougal. She said she was frightened to go to another new school. She feared being harassed because she was “new” and didn't know what to do. When she was settled into her desk in her new classroom, the teacher told them to take out a pencil. *She had no pencil!* Immediately all those fears of inadequacy sprung up. She said it was all she could do to hold back her tears. And then, a miracle happened. A girl sitting next to her leaned over and gave her one of her pencils. Mom said she never forgot that kindness.

Her sharing that heart-breaking story and other acts of mercy shown her *plus* observing how giving our parents were during our growing up years lead us kids to believe deeply in this WUMC School Supply Drive Mission. Children deserve to feel loved and cared for! I love that you continue to do so!

By the way, Mom and that girl sitting next to her on her first day of school in Washougal became life-long friends. ❤️



We won't be able to actually “see” who we help at Hathaway, but that doesn't matter!



It's the heart to give and serve that fills us all with compassionate love.

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Global Ministries and UMCOR Release 2025 Impact Report ‘Answering the Call’

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the 28 page impact report

Through the generosity of United Methodists and a trusted network of global partners, read how the church supported life-changing ministries across Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East.



ATLANTA – The General Board of Global Ministries and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) have released the 2025 Impact Report, showcasing how The United Methodist Church answered God’s call to mission in a changing world through partnership and service. Centered on the theme, **“Answering the Call,”** the report highlights how Global Ministries & UMCOR continued to accompany vulnerable communities amid increasing conflict, displacement, and reductions in international aid.

Through the generosity of United Methodists and a trusted network of global partners, the church supported life-changing ministries across Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East. “Christ calls the church to be a living witness of the hope we find in God,” writes General Secretary Roland Fernandes in the report’s opening letter. “We are humbled by stories of hope made possible through the United Methodist connection—children fed, families reunited, communities strengthened—and are sustained by your prayers and generosity.”

Among the report’s highlights are:

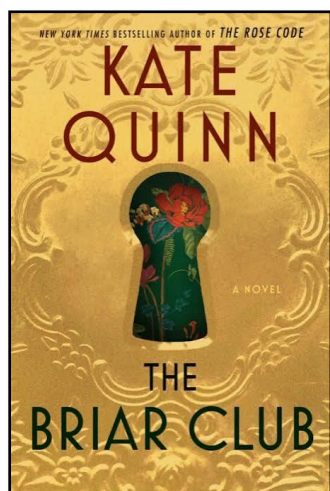
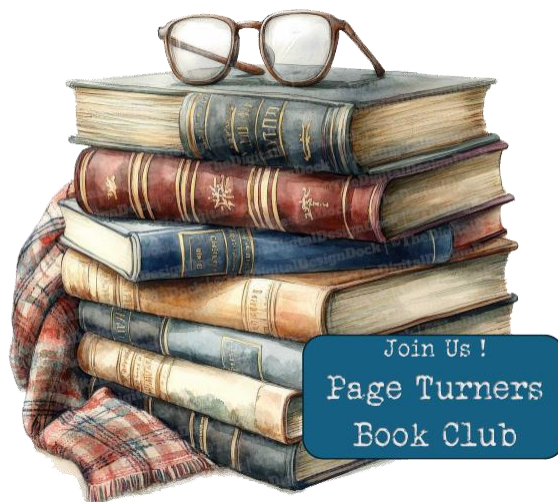
- A celebration of United Methodist missionaries, volunteers, local churches, and partners in humanitarian aid and health whose faithful commitment continues to make God’s love tangible in more than 100 countries around the world;
- Expanded response through the *This Moment Matters* initiative, providing \$30 million in grant funding for food security, healthcare, education, migrant ministries, and peacebuilding efforts; and
- Deeper ecumenical partnerships and increased collaboration with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to strengthen the church’s global witness.

The 2025 Impact Report serves as both a reflection on God’s work through the church and an invitation to continue responding with hope and perseverance in the years to come.

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

Judy Whetzel - 360.600.9796 - maui.born62@gmail.com leads the group and welcomes **everyone** to join the Club. Why? Because it's a wonderful way to establish a sense of community with other readers, discussing the wider themes and character arcs of a story can give you a new perspective on reading and actually allows you to gain more out of books than you did before. And if that's not enough to convince you, here are seven (7) more reasons to contemplate:

1. It forces you to actually read
2. You can make new friends — not just the fictional ones, either
3. It gives you a different perspective
4. It broadens your horizons
5. It Improves your own writing skills
6. They usually involve snacks
7. It gives you a break amidst the madness of life



SEPTEMBER ~ THE BRIAR CLUB

By Kate Quinn – Recommended by Joyce Thompson

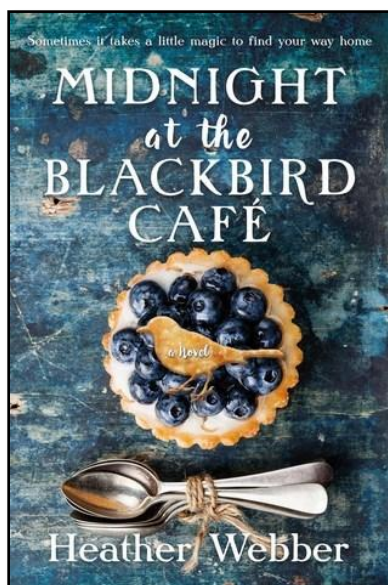
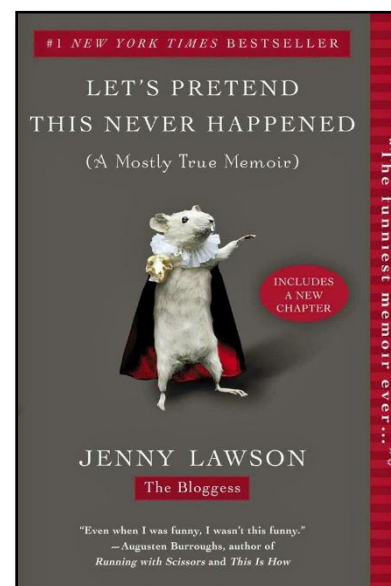
A historical mystery set in 1950s Washington DC, focusing on a secluded, all-female boarding house. When a mysterious widow, Grace March, moves in, she unites the tenants with weekly suppers, but her hidden past and shocking murder destroy the home's fragile peace.

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

OCTOBER ~ LET'S PRETEND IT NEVER HAPPENED (A MOSTLY TRUE MEMOIR)

By Jenny Lawson ~ Recommended by Judy Whetzel

A humorous autobiography detailing her bazaars and often absurd childhood growing up with a taxidermist father. It explores how her strange upbringing, filled with strange family moments, shaped her finding joy in embracing life's imperfections rather than running from them.



NOVEMBER ~ MIDNIGHT AT THE BLACKBIRD CAFÉ

By Heather Webber ~ Recommended by Kathy McKinley

A charming magical realism novel set in Alabama, centering on Anna Kate Callow, who inherits her grandmother's cafe. She returns to a small town, intending to sell the business but instead uncovers family secrets, experiencing the magical "blackbird pies" that bring comforting dreams, and finding romance.

GREG HAZEN RETIRES !

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Retirement GATHERING

— HONORING —
GREG HAZEN

— CELEBRATING —
*a remarkable career
of dedication, hard work
and great memories.*

AT
**LACAMAS
LAKE LODGE**
227 NE LAKE ROAD
CAMAS, WA 98607

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 9, 2026 3:00 PM
TO 6:00 PM

CELEBRATING
48 YEARS
IN COMPUTER PROCESS CONTROL

with Honeywell/Measurex and Panther Systems
in the pulp and paper industry.

Come celebrate this next chapter with us!

RSVP
KINDLY RSVP BY
SEPTEMBER 25, 2026
☎ 360-601-5637
✉ gregoryhazen@gmail.com

SPOUSES AND
SIGNIFICANT OTHERS
WELCOME
★
FAMILY AND FRIENDS
WELCOME
🎵 Background Music Will
Be Provided by Hollie Olson
🌐 hollieolsonmusic.com

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU
Thank you to the many colleagues, customers,
friends, and family members who have been part
of this incredible 48-year journey in Computer
Process Control with Honeywell/Measurex and
Panther Systems serving the pulp and paper
industry.
Your support, friendship, mentorship, and
teamwork have made this career both rewarding
and memorable. As I begin this next chapter,
I look forward to celebrating with all of you and
sharing stories, laughter, and memories from the
years we spent together.
With sincere gratitude,
Greg Hazen

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING WITH YOU!



SOUL CARE WOMEN'S RETREAT

Soul Care SATURDAY — WOMEN'S RETREAT —

Saturday, October 17, 2026 9:00am - 1:30pm

Salmon Creek United Methodist Church

12217 NE Highway 99

Vancouver, WA 98686

Reconnect. Renew. Refresh.

Guest Speaker

Poppy Smith

Author, Speaker, and Spiritual Coach

FLOURISH AS A WOMAN

"My longing is to see women flourish at every age and stage of life. I believe this is God's desire and that He wants us to grow spiritually, emotionally, and personally."



Registration opens August 16 and closes October 4.
The cost is \$20 per person, which includes a delicious Panera lunch. Registration forms will include lunch selections.



To register

Contact Laurie Doering (360) 606-7494
lauriej0503@comcast.net



For women of every age and stage of life!

CAMAS UMC FRIENDSHIP CLUB



THE CAMAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
706 NE 14th Avenue
Camas, Washington 90867

CORDIALLY INVITES

All Vulnerable Adults with Intellectual Disabilities to their first FREE

FRIENDSHIP CLUB GATHERING

There will be snacks and music and games!
Come meet with old friends and make some new ones!

The Fun Afternoon Gatherings are scheduled on the

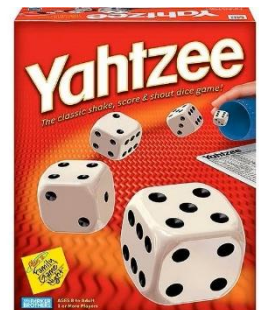
FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

1:00 ~ 3:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 2 ♥ OCTOBER 7 ♥ NOVEMBER 4 ♥ DECEMBER 2



For more information contact
CAROL RICHARDS ~ 218.444.5548
OR
LEAH RICHARDS ~ 360.409.3040



MEANINGFUL SEPTEMBER DAYS



September 7 • Labor Day

U.S. federal holiday honoring workers and marking the unofficial end of summer

September 10 • World Suicide Prevention Day

Focused on mental health awareness and workplace psychological safety



September 11 • Patriot Day

National Day of Service & Remembrance marking the 25th anniversary/remembrance of 9/11

September 13 • National Grandparents Day

Celebrated the first Sunday after Labor Day



September 11–13 • Rosh Hashanah

Jewish New Year and beginning of the Days of Awe

September 15 – October 15 • Hispanic Heritage Month

Recognizing Hispanic and Latino history and culture



September 17 • Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

Commemorating the U.S. Constitution's signing

September 21 • International Day of Peace

UN observance for global non-violence and ceasefires



September 21 • World Alzheimer's Day

Raising awareness and challenging stigma surrounding Alzheimer's

September 22 • Autumnal Equinox

Official start of astronomical autumn



SEPTEMBER



CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Joe Wittler 	Leah Justesen-Brown 			
6	Labor Day 7	8	9	10	Patriot Day 11	12
Worship 10 Fellowship 11 Kathy McKinley 	Church Office CLOSED Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 - Clea's				Rosh Hashanah Begins	
Grands' Day 13	14	Hispanic Month 15	16	17	18	19
Holy Communion Worship 10 Fellowship 11	Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 - Clea's	Page Turners Noon Leonardo's Pizzeria	We Compost 6-7 Here	Finance - 2 Council - 3 Citizenship Day		
20	 21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 10 POTLUCK SUNDAY Jean Leavitt 	 Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 - Clea's	Autumn's Here! 		We Compost - 4:30-5:30 Camas Library Mark Guz Revett Anniversary 	Sukkot Begins	
27	28	29	30			
Worship 10 Fellowship 11	Men's Coffee - 9 Allen Room Bazaar Crafters 10-2 - Clea's		 Sharry Monroe			

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ~ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

