



2026 CHARGE CONFERENCE BOOKLET

Pg. 2 – Pastoral Letter from Pastor Alissa

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Items for Action by Charge Conference

- **2027 Leadership Nominations – pg. 4-7**
- **Zack Reiber's Candidacy Continuance Vote – pg. 8**
- **Shawna Beese Certified Candidacy Affirmation**
- **2027 Pastoral Support Worksheet for Pastor Alissa – pg. 9-10**

LETTER FROM PASTOR ALISSA

Dear Friends in Faith at Spokane Valley UMC-

Thank you for picking up this Charge Conference booklet and taking the time to review the items for action at Charge Conference this year! We will gather on Tuesday, October 20 at 6pm in the front pews of the Sanctuary. Please note that all who attend have "voice" but only members have "vote". Under our new Superintendency model local, ordained Elders have been commissioned and authorized by our Superintendent of Record, Rev. Geoff Helton, to preside over the business of our Charge Conferences this year. We are delighted to welcome Rev. Amanda Nicol, Pastor of Community UMC in Coeur d'Alene, to lead us this year.

At the beginning of our time together, we will ground ourselves in the 2026 Pacific Northwest Annual Conference guiding scripture, Matthew 22:24-40 which tells of Jesus teaching the Great Commandment: to love God and love your neighbor. We will then move to voting on the items that require a vote: the *2026 Pastoral Support Worksheet* and the *2027 Proposed Leadership Nomination Slate*. Please note that our *2027 Proposed Budget* will be voted on by the Church Council at a later date in November or December.

In addition to our "traditional" votes, we also have the joy once again of affirming the continued candidacy of Zack Reiber, our Lay Leader, who is seeking ordination as a Deacon in the United Methodist Church! Zack goes before the Provisional Interview Team of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry to be considered for commissioning as a Provisional Deacon at the beginning of February. Please hold in him your prayers as he prepares for this significant time of discernment. Lastly, we will take a vote to affirm our Church Council's recommendation of Dr. Shawna Beese's for Certified Candidacy. She will interview with the District Committee on Ministry mid-November.

If you won't be able to attend the Charge Conference, or would prefer a less public opportunity for conversation, please know that I am available to discuss these proposals and the Charge Conference procedure with you. You may also email or call me with questions and concerns. My contact information is below.

It's been an incredible year of mission and ministry as we've explored the third part of our mission statement by which we "transform the greater community by the grace of God!" I continue to be deeply grateful to be your pastor and I give thanks to God for our partnership together!

With gratitude,



Pastor Alissa Amestoy – pastor@spokanevalleychurch.org or 509-879-2278

2026 CHARGE CONFERENCE AGENDA

Greetings

Opening Prayer

Guiding Scripture – Matthew 22:34-40- “Love Boldly”

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. One of them, a legal expert, tested him. “Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

He replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.”

The Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Questions for Reflection

- In what ways are you experiencing blessedness and brokenness in your life? Your church? Your community?
- What seems scarce these days? Where have you seen opportunities to share abundance into those spaces?
- What is making you feel safe and unsafe as a church community?
- What forms of faith work is your church being called to “sustain”? What needs to continue or change to support those effort?
- What forms of silence is your church being called to “disrupt”? What does that disruption look like?

Opening Prayer

Business items that must be voted upon by the Annual Charge Conference:

1. Pastoral Support Worksheet for 2027
2. Report of the Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations) for 2027
3. Recommendation of Continued Support for Zack Reiber’s Candidacy
4. Affirmation of Shawna Beese’s Recommendation for Certified Candidacy

Questions?

Closing Prayer & Adjournment

CHURCH OFFICERS AND MINISTRY TEAMS

Spokane Valley United Methodist Church January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027

Names in italics indicate new leaders.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS

Lay Leader & Church Council Chair Zack Reiber
Coordinating Council Team Leader Nancy Larson
Recording Secretary *Margie Manfred*
Treasurer Pauli Erickson
Co-Chair of Finance Gerry Bafus
Co-Chair of Finance Jim Droppers
Chair of SPRC Joyce Johnson
Chair of Trustees Paul Norris
Financial Secretary Desiree Forster
Lay Member to Annual Conference Zack Reiber
Alternate AC Lay Member *Shawna Beese*
United Women in Faith President (Elected by UWF) Madelyn Bafus

MEMBERS AT LARGE ON THE CHURCH COUNCIL:

<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>	<u>Class of 2029</u>
Steve Ross	Andrea Henderson	<i>Margie Collin</i>
Tracey Partridge	Marlene McCoy	<i>Susan Henderson</i>
	James Rogers	<i>Carol Hickman</i>
	Wes Holmquist	

THE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Team Leader Nancy Larson
Coordinator of Ministries with Young People (Staff) Jen Price
Director of Music (Staff) Betsy Pletscher
Hospitality Huddle (Staff) *Margie Manfred*
Mission & Service Team Leader & Madelyn Bafus
 United Women in Faith (Elected by UWF)
Financial Resources Team Leaders Jim Droppers & Gerry Bafus
Board of Trustees Team Leader & Paul Norris
 Stewardship Ministry Team
Staff Parish Relations Team Leader Joyce Johnson
Lay Leader and Church Council Chair Zack Reiber
Adult Education Ministry Team Leader Shirley Porter
Coordinating Council Secretary *Mackenzie Draper (Staff)*
United Women in Faith (Elected by UWF) Madelyn Bafus
Certified Candidate (anticipated) *Shawna Beese*
Disability & Inclusion Team Leader *Traci Richmond*

ADULT EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

Shirley Porter, Team Leader

Madelyn Bafus, *Shawna Beese*, Lois Cwiek, Linda Hansen, and Nancy Larson

*ex officio – Jen Price

CAMPING REGISTRAR

Jen Price

CHURCH HISTORIAN

Susan Ingalls

DISABILITY AND INCLUSION MINISTRY TEAM

Traci Richmond - Team Convener

Lori Darnold

Laurie Harmon

Megan Herdrich

Ann Holmquist

Claudia Michaels

Heather Nilles

Cindi Plowman

Jen Price (staff)

Steve Ross

FINANCIAL RESOURCES SUPPORT TEAM

Gerry Bafus & Jim Droppers, Co-Ministry Team Leaders

Eric Colbert

Pauli Erickson, Treasurer

Desiree Forster, Financial Secretary

Susan Ingalls

Joyce Johnson (SPRC Rep.)

Nancy Moore, Committee Secretary

Ron Pope

Contribution Recorders: Karlene Brown, Nancy Brown, Lois Cwiek, and Desiree Forster

HOSPITALITY HUDDLE

Margie Manfred, Team Leader

Gerry Bafus, *Shawna Beese*, Lois Cwiek, Karen Droppers, Desiree Forster, Brian Hoyt, Joyce Johnson, *Nanda Kinney*, Ali Norris, and *Cindi Plowman* (rep. from Disability and Inclusion Team).

KITCHEN TEAM

Mary Picken, Team Leader

Georgiann Cheney (Serve Safe Certificate), Raeann Ducar (Contact person for *Neighbors Feeding Neighbors*), Arlene Sexton, and Mary Jane Waters

MINISTRIES WITH YOUNG PEOPLE TEAM

Jen Price, Team Leader

Madelyn Bafus	Julia Morley
Scott Finlayson	Lexi Shay
Kyndal Gebhart	Nan Zorn
Laurie Harmon	

MISSION & SERVICE MINISTRY TEAM

Madelyn Bafus, Team Leader

Marie Chapman	Renee Norris
Joyce Johnson	Jim Picken
Mark Kinney	Mary Picken
Nanda Kinney	Zack Reiber
Sue McGovney	Ethel Richards
Nancy Moore	Mary Jane Waters

(Alec Reiber coordinates St. Anne's Community Meal)

NOMINATIONS/LAY MINISTRY TEAM

Pastor Alissa and Zack Reiber, Team Leaders

Class of 2027

Ali Norris
Margie Manfred

Class of 2028

Margie Collin
Johna Pakenbush

Class of 2029

Alec Reiber
Tracey Patridge
Shirley Porter

PRAYER TEAM

Margie Collin, Prayer Coordinator

Mary Jane Waters, Assistant Coordinator

SANCTUARY DESIGN TEAM

Pastor Alissa, Team Convener

Barbara Bartak, Pauli Erickson, Kyndal Gebhart, Sue Henderson (Room 115), Nanda Kinney, and Joyce Johnson

SCHOLARSHIP TEAM

Gerry Bafus, Team Leader

Madelyn Bafus, Margie Collin, and Carol Hickman

*ex officio – Jen Price

STAFF-PARISH-RELATIONS TEAM

Joyce Johnson, Team Leader

Class of 2027

Brian Hoyt

Bruce Butler

Pauli Erickson (ex officio)

Class of 2028

Joyce Johnson

Madelyn Bafus

Jim Picken

Zack Reiber, Lay Leader

James Rogers

Sue Magrath

Class of 2029

Carmen Shaffer

TECHNICAL MINISTRIES TEAM

Lexi Shay & Logan Tiedt, Technical Ministries Co-Coordinator

Eric Colbert

Mike Myers

Cindi Plowman

Cameron Shay

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Paul Norris, Team Leader

Class of 2027

Paul Norris

John Reynen

Georgette Rodgers

Tim Henderson

Bruce Butler

Class of 2028

N/A

Class of 2029

C.J. Amestoy

Chris Reiber

Mary Picken

Ad hoc ex officio – Brian Hoyt, Church Security Officer & Thursday Crew Lead

ZACK REIBER CANDIDACY UPDATE

As many of you, if not all of you know, the order to which I am called is the Order of Deacons. When reflecting on my own call story that I shared at the beginning of this journey, I have had the nudge towards ministry since I was in High School. However, I was unable to articulate that calling as I knew I was not a preacher. (At least that gift hadn't begun to manifest itself). I knew however, that I wanted to serve others which led me to working as a case manager/social worker. During my first master's degree at Gonzaga University, I pursued Organizational Leadership with a concentration in Servant Leadership. This idea of leading others while walking beside them and serving was an idea that immediately clicked with how I wanted to live, as servant leadership is more than a career move, but a lifestyle. When coming to learn about the Order of Deacons, especially in my History of the Deacon class at Wesley Seminary, I was further reassured that this was the order to which I am called. I am called to serve the Triune God, the church and the community. In doing so, the church and the community can be further connected. Though being a part of the Order of Deacons is not required for my career, I have found that those with whom I work at Spokane Falls Community College are not only curious, but some have come to attend my church and also ask questions. In this way, the bridge between the community with whom I work, and the church is starting to be formed. Reflecting on this bridge, I think of Philip. Philip, who was a fellow deacon, travelled throughout the Middle East, Greece, and Asia Minor to help serve others. One, most notable, example is with the Ethiopian. Philip is led there and serves in providing understanding and a path for participation for the Ethiopian. This is how I imagine the bridge of the congregation and the community. As a Deacon I am able to listen and serve and provide opportunities for the congregation and the community to connect. Though it is ultimately the decision of the congregation or community to participate and cross that bridge, just like the Ethiopian who wanted to get baptized after being given understanding and clarification. Jesus himself opened opportunities for connection, but he never pushed others to cross that bridge into those connections. This is how my call story has transformed and is continuing to transform throughout this journey and with the support of Pastor Alissa, my mentor, Rev. Mark Haberman (retired deacon), my family and you all, my church family. Thank you for your support!

~ Zack Reiber

Comp 2027

Compensation Report

Alissa Amestoy FE - Elder In Full Connection (¶ 335) Full Time

Please select your Conference	Pacific Northwest
Legal First Name	Alissa
Legal Last Name	Amestoy
Clergy Status at Time of Filing	FE - Elder In Full Connection (¶ 335)
Total Appointment Time	Full Time
Charge Conference Date	10/20/2026
Salary Effective Start Date	1/1/2027
Cash Salary	\$61,060
Utilities and Furnishings Allowance	\$5,500
Total Cash Salary	\$66,560
Housing Tags	Housing Allowance
Housing Allowance	\$19,200
Total Cash Compensation	\$85,760.00
Plan Compensation	\$85,760
Compass 403(b) Retirement Plan cost to Church	\$6,453.20
CPP (Life and Disability Insurance) Cost to Church	\$2,572.80
Church Premium For Group Health Insurance	\$8,700.00
Total Benefit Costs	\$17,726.00
Accountable Reimbursement Budget	\$7,000.00
Total Cost for Total Appointment Time	\$110,486.00
Pastor Signature (type your name)	Rev. Alissa Amestoy
Local Church Rep Signature (type your name)	Joyce Johnson, SPRC Chair
Each church's share (optional)	
Church	Spokane Valley UMC
Base Salary	\$61,060
Housing/Utility Exclusion	\$5,500
Housing Allowance	\$19,200
Accountable Reimbursement	\$7,000.00
Compass Cost to Church	\$6,453.20
Charge Church Premium For Group Health Insurance	\$8,700.00
CPP Cost to Church	\$2,572.80

