

**MAY 2023**

# **THE EVANGEL**



**JOIN US FOR THIS NEW SERMON SERIES  
BEGINNING MAY 21**

Be Just. Be Kind. Be Humble. Micah 6:8 provides for us not only a picture of what God requires of us but also provides for us a roadmap toward building the kingdom of Heaven here on this earth. For three weeks we're engaging in a sermon series that centers on this one passage of scripture that should inform our faith. This one passage of Scripture can also be seen clearly through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We can't learn about or follow Jesus and not see the importance of justice, kindness and humility. It was evident throughout his entire life. It should be for us as well.

In an increasingly polarized world, we will be using the Micah 6:8 lens in order that we might discover our commonality. We will challenge one another to find ways to demonstrate love to all those whom we encounter, our families, our friends, our neighbors, and particularly to those with whom we differ. This series will help model what it means to love one another while valuing our differences.

**THE NEWSLETTER OF  AUDUBON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



**Rev. Geoff Helton**  
Lead Pastor

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# FROM THE LEAD PASTOR

Friends of Audubon Park Church,

I want to thank you all for a beautiful Holy Week and Easter! It was so good to see so many of you in person and we're thankful for everyone that joined us online! I want to particularly thank everyone who helped us get the church ready on our All Church Work Day and those who shared gifts of worship leadership, music, and hospitality on Easter Sunday. It was a great day!

I want to also express my gratitude to everyone who participated in this year's 40 Days of Giving campaign. We collected a lot of items and money that will benefit organizations doing a lot of good in our community. Well done!

This month in worship we'll wrap up the Gospel Lessons with Ted Lasso sermon series and will start a new series focused on Micah 6:8. I hope you'll worship with us online or in-person.



*Grace & Peace  
-Pastor Geoff*



Thank you especially to Drew & the youth and parents who put on the Easter Breakfast, as well as everyone who helped with the Easter Egg Hunt!

# Stephen Ministry Sunday

## April 23, 2023

*From Barbara White:*

To all of you, THANK YOU, for the privilege and joy of being in the leadership role of the Stephen Ministry program this past 16/17 years. I could not have done it without the help of many people, especially those who felt the calling and took the training to become a Stephen Minister. I learned from each and every one. I thank this congregation for their support of this program, for encouraging one another and accepting a Stephen Minister to walk with you when faced with a difficult situation, whether big or small.

Although I cannot name everyone who has helped get this program started and have continued to support it, I would like to name a few who have been key to helping this program to become what it is today at Audubon:

- Pastor Herb Parrish—who felt this program was important and donated to this ministry.
- Pastor Leslie Ann—who said yes, let's bring this program to Audubon Park UMC.
- Karyl Masters—who, although she doesn't like to speak publicly, stood beside me and helped to present this program to our congregation and board.
- To my Mom, Della Perlenfein, who encouraged and donated to this ministry.
- And to my husband who supported me through it all and often acted as my Stephen Minister.
- To all of you, THANK YOU, for believing in this program, for your words of encouragement, and for your cards and love. **Stephen Ministers do the caring but it is God who does the healing.**

May you continue to support this ministry and the leadership of Carol Hendershot. And if you would like to know more about this program, just ask any Stephen Minister or pastor, or the office. We would welcome the chance to share more about this caring program.

Thanks and God Bless.

**On Sunday, April 23rd we said thank you to Barbara White for her leadership for nearly 20 years, and commissioned Carol Hendershot as our new Stephen Ministry Leader!**

*From Carol Hendershot:*

Thank you for your support and prayers as I received training and was commissioned as your new Stephen Leader.

Part of my role is to inform the congregation about Stephen Ministry. This ministry was started in the 1975 by Dr. Kenneth Haugk. He is a trained clinical psychologist as well as a pastor. He quickly realized when he began his work as a pastor that he was not able to fully support everyone in his congregation as he wanted. He knew that Christians are all called to care for each other, so he developed the Stephen Ministry program.

Stephen Ministers receive 50 hours of training before they are assigned a care receiver. Once they complete their initial training they meet with other Stephen Ministers every two weeks for supervision and continued training.

Stephen Ministry is a well structured program to provide skilled, faith-filled compassionate, trustworthy care, keeping Christ at the center of the care. Confidentiality is a core component of our care.

If you are interested in learning more about Stephen Ministry or about becoming a Stephen Minister, please reach out to me (or the pastors or other Stephen Ministers) for more information.

My email is [ricasc@comcast.net](mailto:ricasc@comcast.net) and my cell is 509-994-0099 (leave a message). Thank you.



# Community Bulletin Board

Group info & events, 'Thank You' notes, announcements,  
and more!

## Youth Ministry Upcoming Events

If you have any questions about our youth group program please contact Drew Homchick for more info: [drew@audubonparkumc.org](mailto:drew@audubonparkumc.org)

### Cinco De Mayo

Friday, May 5th | 6pm - 7:30pm

We will celebrate Cinco De Mayo with dinner at the church & fun & games! See you then!

### Kickball

Friday, May 12th | 6pm - 7:30pm

We will meet at the church and head over to Audubon Park for kickball. Bring your running shoes!

### Outdoor Games

Friday, May 19th | 6pm - 7:30pm

We will meet outside at the church for some badminton and cornhole games.

### Parents Night Out

Friday, May 26th | 6pm - 9pm

Our youth will be hosting a fundraiser called "Parents Night Out" where they will have a movie, popcorn, & other fun games while you enjoy a night out on the town or some relaxing time to yourself! :)

### Sunday School Schedule

Our Youth Sunday School program (6th grade - 12th grade) meets downstairs in the youth room on Sundays from 9am - 10am.

## APUMC QUILT GROUP!

**When:** Tuesdays 9am – noon

**Where:** APUMC Room 303 (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

**Who:** Open to ALL who quilt or would like to learn

**What:** Fellowship, fun and fabric!  
Working together on your own project or on projects to share in our community!

**Contact:** Pat Dobberstein 509-326-1736

## YOUNG(ish) ADULT(ish) GROUP EVENTS

Fellowship for those in their 20's, 30's, & 40's

### Putt-Putt at Wonderland

Sunday, May 7th | 2pm

We will meet at Wonderland in North Spokane for a round of putt-putt golf on their outdoor course.

### Centennial Trail

Sunday, May 21st | 3pm

We will meet at Cemetery Trailhead on N Wright Rd for a scenic hike on the Centennial Trail. The trail is paved, so feel free to have kids bring their scooters. Looking forward to enjoying some fresh air, fellowship, & nature!

**Do you have questions?** For more info on our Youngish Adultish group, please contact Drew Homchick: [drew@audubonparkumc.org](mailto:drew@audubonparkumc.org)

## Audubon Park Food Bank

The food ministry team wants to thank everyone for your generous support through the 40 Days of Giving campaign. Your donations of products and money helped keep us open and providing needed nourishment for our community.

We continue to need help with several positions in the food Bank. We are only open two days during the month, so if this works for you, come on in and talk with Karen Peacock.

## BARE NECESSITIES

Thank you so very much to all of you who generously supported Bare Necessities during The 40 Days of Giving! Our Food Bank patrons really appreciate any support that we can give them, especially with personal hygiene and home cleaning products.

Unlike assistance with food, these important items are rarely offered to families in need. So it is an important mission all year long. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated! - Sandi Nicol

**Parking Reminders!** Please park in the lot or further out in the neighborhood if you are able to walk a good distance, and please don't park in our yellow loading zones. Please also don't park in front of our neighbor across Walton's house.

Thank you to everyone who has prayed for and supported us during this time, especially around the moving process. Our new address is 302 E Wedgewood, Apt 269  
Spokane, WA 99208  
- Les & Margie Harder

## DAILY BREAD

Daily Bread is our breakfast program. We provide breakfast to anyone who wants to eat with us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Breakfast begins at 8am and we stop serving at 10am.

If you would like to be involved, we will probably need extra help this summer as people take vacations. A 2nd kitchen worker and someone with a pick up to help get food from Feed Spokane would be an added bonus.

Or if you would just like to show up on one of the Tuesday morning and join us serving we would enjoy your company.

And if you would like to help provide food, eggs are our big need at this time.

Thank you,  
Barbara Anderson

To everyone who remembered me on my 97th birthday with cards, phone calls, email, thoughts and prayers. Thank you so much. I appreciated them all and felt blessed to be remembered by so many of you. Thank you, Della Perlenfein

## KNITTING, ANYONE?

Are you available on Wednesday afternoon?  
Looking for pleasant conversation?

**The Knitting Group gets together Wednesdays at 1pm in the Parlor, and you are welcome to join us!**

We knit chemo hats for cancer patients and so far this year have donated 205 hats.

**Or if you have a project going, bring it along!**

And even if you're not into knitting, you're welcome to come for the pleasant conversation.



**Rev. Glenn Kennedy**

Associate Pastor of  
Congregational Care  
[glenn@audubonparkumc.org](mailto:glenn@audubonparkumc.org)

## FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL CARE PASTOR

*"Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age"*  
-Matthew 28:20b (CEB)

Dear Friends,

In this Easter and Post-Easter season our congregation has been touched by a number of deaths.

Death always causes me to think, and rethink, about what I truly believe regarding life, death, and hope for life after death. For the moment, allow me to reflect with you about life after death for the one or ones who remain in *this* life. That's where the verse from Matthew 28 comes in...that promise that Jesus offered to His followers at the point of His final earthly exit.

Allow me to share an experience that happened yesterday (I'm writing this on April 25th—so by the time you read it, a few "yesterdays" will have come and gone). Yesterday when I went to the barn to do my morning horse-keeping chores, my dear old 28-year-old mare (named Shawna) gave me the clear sign I'd been kind of waiting for.

I'd known for some time that her days with me were not many. I'd been telling her all winter that the first morning she didn't stand and nicker back as I approached the barn and called out her name would be the day the veterinarian would have to be called and I would have to do what was needed. I thanked her for giving me that clear sign...telling me that it was time.

Carol and I had errands to take care of later in the day, and as we pulled back into our driveway it was time for evening barn chores. I turned to Carol and said "I don't want to go to the barn tonight—I'm not sure I'm ready to face that empty stall."

The words were no sooner out of my mouth when a car I didn't recognize pulled in behind us. It was the local florist. She said that she was on her way home and even though deliveries for the day had been completed earlier, since she lives near us she just decided to swing on by. (There are some advantages to small-town and country living.)

She had a beautiful arrangement for us in a simple little basket...the kind of basket that might be found in a garden house, or used for gathering eggs...the kind of basket that looked like it belonged on a farm. It was a gift from the friend up the road who takes care of my horses when I'm away (or recovering from surgery!) - I had told her the night before that Shawna's time was near.

So...what's the 'what' of all this? The 'what' is that if our eyes and hearts are open to receiving that gift of promised Presence, that gift often comes to us in quiet, unspeakable ways. Ways that cut through our hurt, our sorrow, our aloneness. A little basket of flowers accompanied by a note from a friend said to me "you don't have to walk into your barn alone tonight". (***"Look, I myself will be with you every day..."***)

Now, I assure you, I do know the difference in the weight of grief between losing humans vs horses...but grief comes to us in all shapes and sizes. Finding our way through it takes hearts open to offering "presence" and hearts open to receiving that "Presence".

May we be a people who know how to offer, and to receive that which is offered. Journey on dear ones, with hearts that are open to "I will be with you..."

*Lovingly,  
Pastor Glenn*

# MEN'S COFFEE

## WITH PASTOR GLENN



**Thursdays at 11am  
in the Parlor**

Come visit, catch up, pray together, and share some moments of devotional thought.

Let's connect and reconnect for the sake of our spirit's growth and for the sake of the ministry we're called to live out in this place.

## Weekly Schedule

### Sunday

- 9am Children's Sunday School
- Youth Sunday School
- Worship Service In-Person
- Worship Service Online
- 10:30am Worship Service In-Person

### Monday

- 9am Art Group - 1st and 3rd Monday
- 11:30am Bible Study (Melva Lohstroh)
- 7:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous

### Tuesday

- 8:30am Food Bank, Breakfast, & Daily Bread - 2nd & 4th Tuesday
- 9am Quilting Group
- 6pm Cub Scouts

### Wednesday

- 10am Overeaters Anonymous
- 1 pm Knitters
- 6:30pm Boy Scouts

### Thursday

- 11am Men's Meeting with Pastor Glenn
- 6pm Choir Rehearsal

### Friday

- 10am Stephen Ministry - 1st & 3rd Friday

*By The Way:*

**PLEASE EXTEND A  
WARM WELCOME TO  
OUR NEWEST  
MEMBERS!**

**In April, we welcomed 6 New  
Members to our Church:**

**Kathy Clark, Kyla & Greg Person, and  
Bill Prescott joined on 4/2, and Marika &  
Matt McCue joined on 4/16**

**Welcome all—we're happy to have you!**

## May Birthdays

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 4 - Carol Kennedy   | 13 - Carolyn Zundel    |
| 5 - Meredith Moreau | 16 - Lucia Nielson     |
| 6 - Joanne Harvey   | 18 - Uma Asterino      |
| 8 - George Detlaff  | Leonna Bowers          |
| 9 - Bo Cummings     | 19 - Cynthia Cree      |
| 10 - Kathy Cummings | 20 - Madison Banks     |
| 11 - Dee McClung    | 21 - Barbara Anderson  |
| Charlene Severns    | 22 - Don Holm          |
| Jim Walker          | 23 - Jean Enzler       |
| Laura Velonza       | 27 - Doug Smith        |
| 12 - Holley Ritz    | 29 - Demaris Siconolfi |
| Analisa Schmidt     | 31 - Vanessa Caley     |

## May Anniversaries

- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6 - Beth & Joe Meersman    | 19 - Andrew & Pamela Ridgeway |
| 10 - Bill & Diane Strobeck | 31 - Dave & Judy Payne        |
| 12 - Jim & Judy Walker     |                               |

**Address Service Requested**

# **THE EVANGEL - Vol. 69, Issue 5 - MAY 2023**



**A New Sermon Series on Sunday Mornings beginning May 21**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP at 9AM & 10:30AM**

**ONLINE WORSHIP at 9AM**

**CHILDREN'S & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9AM**

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  AUDUBON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**