



SUMMER TIME

SABBATH, REST, AND CONTEMPLATION

CUMC MAGAZINE JULY - AUGUST 2022

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STRAWBERRY SOCIAL

One of the most anticipated events of the year for us is finally here. On July 2, we will be able to enjoy a variety of strawberry treats to help a good cause.

The mission team's goal is to make a profit of at least \$1,500 which will be used to pay salary support for a missionary pilot in the Democratic Republic of Congo and a missionary health worker in Nepal.

LAY SPEAKERS

Pastor Lisa will be taking some time off at the end of July for two weeks to travel and visit with friends. We hope her journey is a spiritually nourishing one. At home, we will be blessed with words of wisdom from Gene Clark on July 31, and Baert Simmons on August 7. It is good that we are able to receive words of wisdom and faith from different perspectives throughout the year.

Austin, pushing up Jodi's glasses.



JULY CALENDAR

SUNDAYS

- ❖ 11 AM Worship

MONDAYS

- 4 Independence Day
Office Closed
- 11 Admin Council Meeting
- 18 6:30 PM Quilters on the Rock
- ❖ 8:30 – 9: 30 AM Exercise Group
- ❖ 9 AM Sewing Group



TUESDAYS

- 19 10AM – 3 PM Quilters on the Rock

WEDNESDAYS

- 13 5 PM Decision Day Protest at the Overpass
- 20 6:30 – 8 PM Coupeville Lions Club
- ❖ 8:30 – 9: 30 AM Exercise Group
- ❖ 10 AM Knitting Group

THURSDAYS

- 14 10 AM Coffee and Conversation – Social Principles and Supreme Court Rulings
- ❖ 6:30 PM Choir Practice

FRIDAYS

- ❖ 8:30 – 9: 30 AM Exercise Group

SATURDAYS

- 2 10 AM – 2 PM Strawberry Social



JOYS IN JULY

- 7 Janie Imel
- 11 Erica Sugatan
- 12 Georgia Gardner
- 14 Eric Mitten
- 17 Clynton Easley
- Jim Cline
- 20 Joe Hillers
- 22 Phylis Hollamon Berg
- 23 Teresa Melaas
- 24 Scott Cole
- 29 Jodi Burcham
- 31 Lisa Connolley
- Rich Melaas



AUGUST CALENDAR

SUNDAYS

- ❖ 11 AM Worship

MONDAYS

- 15 Quilters on the Rock
- ❖ 8:30 – 9: 30 AM Exercise Group
- ❖ 9 AM Sewing Group

TUESDAYS

- 16 3:30 PM First Bell Choir Practice
- 23,30 3:30 PM Bell Choir Practice

WEDNESDAYS

- 3 6:30 – 8 PM Coupeville Lions Club
- 17 6:30 – 8 PM Coupeville Lions Club
- ❖ 8:30 – 9: 30 AM Exercise Group
- ❖ 10 AM Knitting Group

THURSDAYS

- ❖ 6:30 PM Choir Practice



FRIDAYS

- ❖ 8:30 – 9: 30 AM Exercise Group

SATURDAYS

- 20 Memorial for Dick Barker



JOYS IN AUGUST

- 3 Brian & Beth Haight Anniversary
- 7 Tim & Suzanne Wallis Anniversary
- 8 John White
David Barville
- 11 Kathy Harada
- 14 Gail Rebeschke-Smith
- 16 Clarence Hein
- 18 Doreen Lambert
- 24 Robin Hertlein
- 25 Brenda & Baert Simmons Anniversary
Kristy Anderson
- 29 Bob & Rosemary Brown Anniversary

SEPTEMBER

- Sundays Lectionary Bible Study
Resumes
- 5 Labor Day – Office Closed
- 6 Coupeville School District
Year Begins
- 8 Coffee and Conversation –
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- 10 UWF District Meeting
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Mission Statement PT 2 /
Path Forward

WORD FROM LISA

As the summer sun finally beats down warm upon us, we are blessed to be in a season of light. We were blessed to begin this season with a glorious wedding that shone the light of love. This week will be the return of the Strawberry Social and the Lions Garage Sale, shining light for the community and for the mission. Light and Love abound!

And then, and then...things gently pause ever so slowly for the summer. Vacations will be taken; we hope that rest and renewal will happen. Our bible study will pause, but our worship of God continues, our singing continues, and our prayers continue; may they nurture our souls in this time of slowing.



As we take time to slow down may our hearts and minds dream of new ways of being God's church in Coupeville. May we ponder how we move forward in sharing our gifts and talents, consider what makes our congregation unique in this place and how we want to best live that vision. It is good to spend time reflecting on how God has blessed us and calls us forth to bless others; it adds a dimension to rest, a sense of holy sabbath.

In worship before leaving for the mission, Irene mentioned that she would purchase goods for the refugees while in Romania to aid their economy. This is an action of double mission, a grand generosity that so many of us are participating in as we send Irene off with our blessings and offerings.

This is also a beautiful invitation for us all to consider; how can we take our resources on our vacations to benefit others, how we gift others as we utilize this time of rest for our own souls? Every opportunity in life comes with an opportunity to care for others. One great opportunity is to bring gifts home that are truly made in the places we visit and take gifts to our hosts from things made here in Coupeville or on Whidbey, to support the local communities, a very personal way to love our neighbors both here, and the ones we will meet. It takes us into connection and conversation that opens the sacred in new places.

Sabbath and rest are an important way to connect not only with God but those around us and ourselves. We open ourselves to see the holy in each encounter as we slow down and take time to be fully sensual, to use the senses God has blessed us with; to hear the birds, taste new foods, smell the air, touch the water, and open our eyes with wonder at the beauty of creation, wherever we may be.

(Photos are a few views of my last Sabbatical)



CUMC NEWS



LAY LEADER REPORT

As the lay member to the annual conference, I attended the sessions of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference held via Zoom. There were over 250 churches participating. I took part in 6 sessions where the lay members had a role. Some of it was administrative in nature. The Conference theme was “Called to be ...Alert, Faithful, Brave, and do all in Love” based on 1 Corinthians 16:13-14. Various speakers, lay and clergy, spoke to a theme of loving all and inviting all to worship. Words like inclusion, family, and equity, were emphasized. “Our only loyalty is unity under Jesus Christ,” a quote from a retired Elder, Charles Brown.

A session was presented on Creation Justice, part of which was an emphasis on “Land Acknowledgement.” This was in reference to what land are you living or having your worship on, lands that originally belonged to indigenous people. If you think about it, that is practically everyone here in the Northwest. A challenge was put forth to “Understand Foundation” – where we are and what indigenous peoples did to maintain the land. On another theme, churches were encouraged to form Green Teams to look for ways to reduce waste and economize on utilities and utilize “green” sources such as solar power.

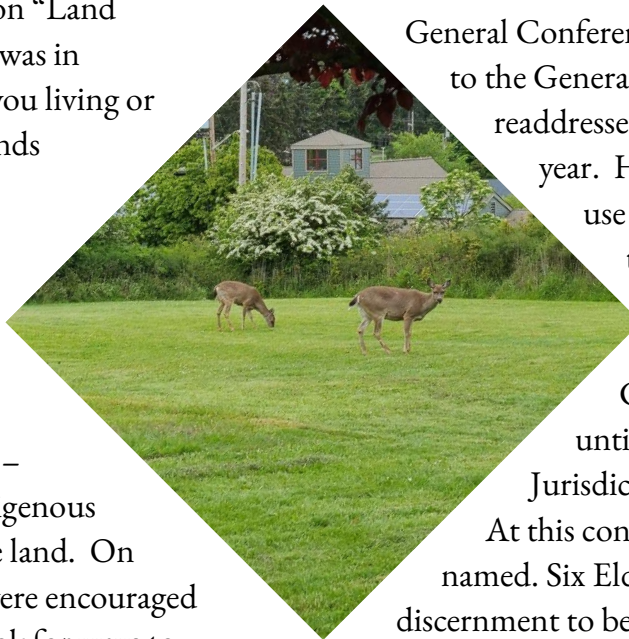
We also had presentations on Disability Ministries and Global Ministries.

There were 12 Petitions presented. Some were administrative in nature as in budget planning.

Others were for a specific purpose such as endorsing a Sunday set aside for acknowledging disabilities, striving for creation justice, and endorsing the closure of a church (Bonney Lake: Foothills UMC). Coupeville UMC submitted a petition written by our Admin Council Chair, Eve Parrish, requesting a change to the Book of Discipline to give the local church more control of income from the property. During the focus session on petitions, it was the most thoroughly discussed. It was disclosed during the discussion that the Book of Discipline paragraph was only applicable to the land on which the Church and Parsonage sit. Therefore, any income from other property owned by the church can be used for any purpose. The petition was not supported for submission from the Annual Conference to the General Conference, but it still can be submitted to the General Conference and can be readdressed at the Annual Conference next year. However, we now know we can use income from our property across the street for any need we may have.

As most know the General Conference has been delayed until 2024. However, there will be a Jurisdictional Conference in November. At this conference, 3 new Bishops will be named. Six Elders were given support for discernment to become Bishops. Our current Bishop, Elaine Stanovsky, is retiring.

Besides having a petition from Coupeville UMC, we were blessed to have Clynton Easley named twice, first as a new clergy and then as assigned to Fruitland, ID, to begin his ministry. We are so proud of him. (CONTINUE)



(Lay Leader Continued)

United Methodist Women (UMW), now known as United Women in Faith (UWF), is envisioning using new connections for inclusivity, action, impact, and new paths to join, especially targeting women who work.

Due to COVID many committees, boards, and agencies were negatively impacted. They are looking at not only revitalizing them but also looking for changes and new methods and being more inclusive. Volunteers in Missions (VIM) have been looking at new ways to serve locally until travel is again feasible.

Some closing points were: “This is a time of uncertainty, but we must move forward, we must change, let go of the old rules” and “to love one another and accept one another, love people, not judge people.”

There will be a conference report and you can find out more detail on the PNW Conference Web site and their links.

I learned a lot from the conference but still, there was no capability to interact with representatives from the various churches to gain new insights and connections. Perhaps by next year, there will be an in-person conference again.

Jill Usher

Lay Leader

ADMIN COUNCIL

In preparation for the summer Administrative Council meeting on July 11, Committee leaders will be asked to “look into the future, and plan for next year.”

As we achieve a more stable financial state, our leaders need to take a long view of their activities and

anticipate how we can sustain, change, and expand how we are fulfilling CUMC’s overall mission of reaching out to our community, as we spread the word of God and share what we have with others.

What new projects can we undertake? What groups in Coupeville can we partner with? What steps should we be taking, to ensure that our church building and parsonage are safe, well-functioning, and ready for expanded use?

A long-range plan from each committee will give us a good foundation for establishing our budget and focusing our resources. It’s time to think bigger!

Eve Parrish

Chair, Admin Council

TRUSTEES



As summer approaches

Coupeville so do all the travelers who carefully drive down Main Street and past our beautiful, historic church. Maybe they drive by and hear the bell toll at noon followed by the appropriately chosen hymn. What a treat for folks visiting our island. The CUMC trustees make sure the grounds are trimmed and neat which includes the grass lot and parsonage lawn.

We do not have any major upcoming plans except our continued optimism in renting out the facility on a regular basis.

In August Senior Island Resources is looking to rent the Fellowship Hall and bring back senior meals to our community. Let’s stay optimistic that this entity will brighten our hall with laughter and fellowship for those who enjoy the services of Senior Island Resources. Sandra Johnson

Chair, Trustees



FINANCIALS

As of June 29, the financials are as follows:

Year To date:

Income: \$113,444.85

Expenses: \$86,499.73

Difference: +\$26,945.12

Non-Pledges: \$49,369.28

Pledges: \$59,809.64

Plates: \$2,384.00

Scott Cole

Treasurer



CONGRESSIONAL CARE

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds...”

Hebrews 10:24 NIV

I've enjoyed working with our Congressional Care Committee. We continue to be busy encouraging others in our church and life by making calls, sending cards, and praying for those in need. At this time, I ask for prayers from you, my faith and church family. Please pray with me for my upcoming trip to see my kids and grandkids in Romania to help with Ukrainian refugees. We are waiting to hear that Leif and his family get their passports and that Sergei (Dad of the family I travel with) gets the documents he needs, too. While I'm away, I have the rest of my care committee that will be available to continue their help. I'm also blessed to have dear friends staying in my home while I travel. God bless and care for you all as you care for others, too.

Irene Gustovson,

Chair, Congressional Care Committee

BELL CHOIR

The Bell Choir will be returning to Coupeville United Methodist Church with practice beginning on Tuesday, August 16th at 3:30 PM, and practices occurring on Tuesdays after that. The first performance will be in the Fall, in either late September or October.

New members are always welcome. There is no music reading required, just the ability to count from 1 to 4. Those interested should get in contact over the phone at (360) 682-5664 or in person before or after church.

Florence Livingston

Director, Bell Choir

FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship Committee is planning an event for August where we can get together and enjoy good company and good conversation outside of our normal Worship and Coffee Hour. More information will come out in the weekly newsletter as it becomes available.

MISSION COMMITTEE

The mission committee is taking a break after our Strawberry Social unless a need arises. We will see all of you in September.

Carmen McFadyen

Chair, Mission



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The ladies are busy knitting, sewing, and planning for upcoming events.

In late July, three UWF members will travel to Ellensburg Washington to attend the Mission U 2022 conference. Mission U is an annual UWF-sponsored activity that is designed to enrich our commitment to global ministries. The curriculum is “Who can we be together” bringing participants into Jesus’ teachings. Information will be brought back and shared with all.

We are also working on hosting our Puget Sound district conference Saturday, September 10th. Please save that date! More details on time and speaker and registration will be coming.

I will close in asking for any homeless jelly jars as they will be put to good use for the Christmas Bazaar.

Judy Good

President, United Women in Faith



Who Can We Be Together?

Building Communities
of Hope and Joy

Mission u 2022

Please join us at Mission u 2022 as we reflect on the community that Jesus is calling us to be!

2022 Mission u, July 22-24, Yakima: Wesley UMC

Learning Together for the Transformation of the World.

Beginning in 2022, we are taking an exciting new approach to Mission u curricula. This means there will be one transformative biblical curriculum for everyone. One for adults, one for youth, and one for children – all focusing on a shared biblical theme: Luke 13. There is no registration fee for children 5-12 if they are with a parent or grandparent.

Purchase your Spiritual Growth Study Book in advance as they will not be sold at Mission u. The curricula we will be using are available to purchase at our e-store or at

www.umwmissionresources.org/

The books are \$10 each.



Our Social Principles

[From the Book of Discipline, 2016](#)

Preface

The United Methodist Church has a long history of concern for social justice. Its members have often taken forthright positions on controversial issues involving Christian principles. Early Methodists expressed their opposition to the slave trade, to smuggling, and to the cruel treatment of prisoners.

A social creed was adopted by The Methodist Episcopal Church (North) in 1908. Within the next decade similar statements were adopted by The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and by The Methodist Protestant Church. The Evangelical United Brethren Church adopted a statement of social principles in 1946 at the time of the uniting of the United Brethren and The Evangelical Church. In 1972, four years after the uniting in 1968 of The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the General Conference of The United Methodist Church adopted a new statement of Social Principles, which was revised in 1976 (and by each successive General Conference).

The Social Principles, while not to be considered church law, are a prayerful and thoughtful effort on the part of the General Conference to speak to the human issues in the contemporary world from a sound biblical and theological foundation as historically demonstrated in United Methodist traditions. They are a call to faithfulness and are intended to be instructive and persuasive in the best of the prophetic spirit. The Social Principles are a call to all members of The United Methodist Church to a prayerful, studied dialogue of faith and practice. (See ¶ 509.)

Preamble

We, the people called United Methodists, affirm our faith in God our Creator and Father, in Jesus Christ our Savior, and in the Holy Spirit, our Guide and Guard.

We acknowledge our complete dependence upon God in birth, in life, in death, and in life eternal. Secure in God's love, we affirm the goodness of life and confess our many sins against God's will for us as we find it in Jesus Christ. We have not always been faithful stewards of all that has been committed to us by God the Creator. We have been reluctant followers of Jesus Christ in his mission to bring all persons into a community of love. Though called by the Holy Spirit to become new creatures in Christ, we have resisted the further call to become the people of God in our dealings with each other and the earth on which we live.

We affirm our unity in Jesus Christ while acknowledging differences in applying our faith in different cultural contexts as we live out the gospel. We stand united in declaring our faith that God's grace is available to all, that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Grateful for God's forgiving love, in which we live and by which we are judged, and affirming our belief in the inestimable worth of each individual, we renew our commitment to become faithful witnesses to the gospel, not alone to the ends of earth, but also to the depths of our common life and work.

Links to all the social principles can be found at: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/our-social-principles>

Statement from PNW Annual Conference

CALL FOR SUPPORT OF REPRODUCTIVE AUTONOMY AND HEALTHCARE

We, as the laity and clergy members of the Alaska, Oregon-Idaho, and Pacific Northwest Conferences of the United Methodist Church, affirm the sacred worth of those who are or may become pregnant; further affirm their bodily autonomy, right to privacy in medical care and treatment, and right of access to reproductive health services including abortion and contraceptive care; and further affirm their access to the divine gift of free will and personal ethical decision making rooted in our shared faith and practice.

The United Methodist Social Principles (§ 161.K) state that “we are equally bound to respect the sacredness of the life and well-being of the mother and the unborn child,” and “we recognize the tragic conflicts of life with life that may justify abortion, and in such cases, we support the legal option of abortion under proper medical procedures by certified medical providers,” and “the Church shall encourage ministries to reduce unintended pregnancies such as comprehensive, age-appropriate sexuality education, advocacy in regard to contraception, and support of initiatives that enhance the quality of life for all women and girls around the globe,” and “a decision concerning abortion should be made only after thoughtful and prayerful consideration by the parties involved, with medical, family, pastoral, and other appropriate counsel.”

The recent ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States grieves us and places the lives, physical and emotional health, and spiritual well-being of parishioners and community members in jeopardy. It disproportionately punishes those already pressed to the margins and places them under undue financial and emotional strain. As conferences committed to anti-racism, equity, justice, and care, we cannot be silent in the face of such mendacity.

The members of the Alaska, Oregon-Idaho, and Pacific Northwest Conferences of The United Methodist Church denounce in the strongest terms the decision by the Supreme Court of the United States to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Further, we name the real harm that this decision will exact upon those bearing children and the children they bear.

We call on our laity, clergy, congregations, extension ministries, and communities to commit to local and connectional ministry in support of individuals seeking reproductive health care that may be prohibited by the jurisdiction in which that individual resides. We commit to working with United Methodist entities in states that are banning abortion in order to allow people affordable access. We call upon our annual conferences to create funds where people may donate to help support access to vital reproductive healthcare for staff, clergy, and their families.

We call on our congregations to have well-facilitated conversations about abortion care, reproductive health, and the intersections of health care, racism, poverty, and sexism, prioritizing compassion over judgment.

We call upon our federal representatives to move a Constitutional amendment securing the protected rights for reproductive health, including abortion.

We call on the Secretaries of our Annual Conferences to send a copy of this resolution to each member of their legislative bodies, both state and federal to publicly bear witness to the Church of Jesus

Christ standing with and for those whose agency is being denied, whose freedom is being restricted, and whose voices are being ignored.

Worship Teams

Sunday wouldn't be the same without our worship teams, who help with everything from greeting members as they arrive to providing coffee and treats after the service. However, some of these teams have asked for volunteers.

If you like talking to people and making connections, join the **Ushers**. They work as greeters before the worship service, help people find seats, and collect the offerings during the service. Service wouldn't be the same without a friendly face to greet you at the door and make sure you were set for the morning. Contact Al Sherman (360-632-2665 or alphyl@whidbey.net) to join. Ushers are part of smaller teams and help once every 8 weeks.

If you enjoy baking, decorating, or making sure people have a good time, join a **Coffee Hour Team**. They provide the coffee and treats that we enjoy after service each Sunday. Contact Jill Usher (360-678-0641), Jan Martin (360-678-5562), or Val Hillers (360-320-4759) to join. Baking skills or coffee-making skills are not required to join a coffee hour team. Coffee hour teams work on a rotating 6-week basis.

Liturgists assist during the service by reading scripture before the gospel reading. Anyone can be a liturgist, so long as they don't have a fear of public reading. Currently, there are 6 liturgists, but more are always welcome. Liturgists will be sent a copy of the readings on the Thursday before Sunday service. Contact the office at 360-678-4256 or staff@coupevilleumc.com to join the liturgist list.

If you want to try your hand at something with more technical responsibilities, join the **Audio-Visual** teams. We try to ensure that there is a Livestream and that it has sound, though we don't always get that right. Currently, the audio team has 5 members. Those with experience live-streaming videos or experience on our soundboard can request to learn our video set-up at this time. You can contact the office to join the Audio-visual team.

To everyone who is part of the worship teams, **THANK YOU**. You help make Coupeville United Methodist Church what it is.



Taking a Moment for Amazement

God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good – Genesis 1:31a CEB

This is the evening of the sixth day when all of creation had been made. All animals, all plants, all the stars of the sky, and rivers of the world have been created. Yes, even humans, with all our future flaws have been created, and still, God saw us as part of creation, and supremely good.

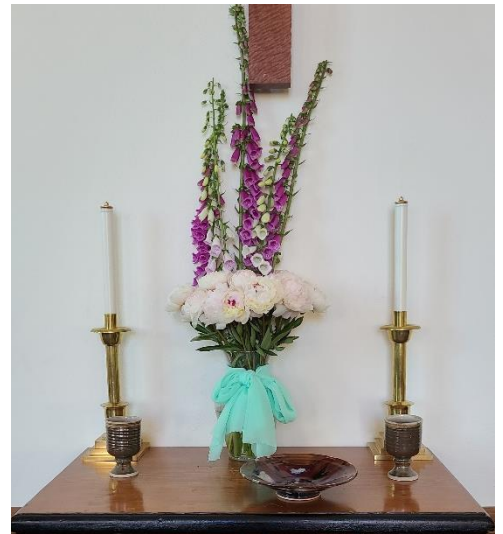
We are blessed to live in a wonderful area, where we can see multiple parts of God's creation all at once. My favorite example of this is the drive around Penn Cove, particularly the curves of San de Fuca. When you can see the salt water of the cove, the snow-covered mountains, the forests of pines, and the fields. All of that is there to see in the short time of taking those corners.

And yet, it is hard to take a moment to truly be amazed when driving. And it is even harder to be amazed at creation when worrying about everything else happening in the world.

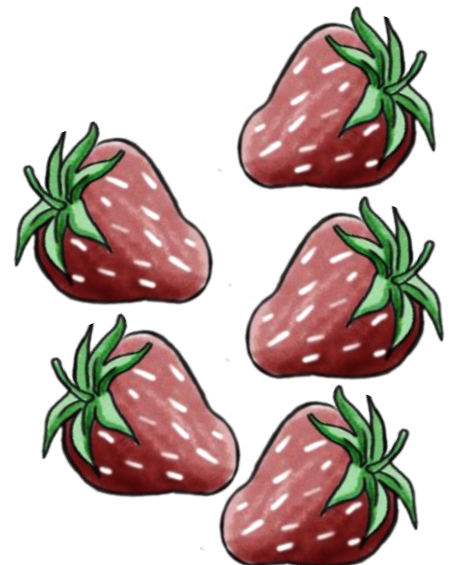
For most of the springtime, I did not let myself stop to enjoy anything about creation. I was worried about the world, the wedding of my sister, and a multitude of other things that in the end don't matter. In the weeks leading up to the wedding, I agonized over how to acquire affordable flowers for the altar. I wanted them to be local because my sister loves this area and wanted to highlight its beauty for visiting friends and family. Then, I saw a sign for peonies and knew I had found the majority of the flowers for the altar. The others were foxgloves that I knew grew on my parent's property.

By taking pictures of views to contemplate later, smelling the flowers, admiring the wild creatures here on the island, and enjoying the company of others, we can all enjoy the things that God had made.

All that God created is supremely good, and I plan on taking more moments to be amazed by that. And the strawberries on July 2.



By Julie Clark



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all who have provided information for the Magazine. This is a wonderful way to go in-depth on certain subjects in a way that is not possible with our weekly newsletter. Those wishing to provide an article for the magazine should reach out to Pastor Lisa for guidance and review.

NEXT ISSUE



September – October Magazine: Ordinary Time
Learning and Studying

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