



May 2019

Langley United Methodist Church Newsletter

An Advocating, Greening, and Reconciling congregation

Endings...and New Beginnings



Pastor Mary and Steve Boyd

Spring has sprung. The change of seasons brings splashes of color across Whidbey and the promise of summer can be sensed and seen all around us.

At Langley UMC, we are also entering the season of transition as we shepherd Mary through her last month with her church family and on to retirement. And in July, we will welcome Rich Füss and his family into the life of this church and begin our ministry together in new ways.

Williams Bridges, author of *Managing Transitions* and an authority on managing change, offers us a model for the process we all go through in any situational change. Transition begins with ending, a period of letting go and grieving what we are losing. From that point, we generally enter a neutral phase before moving on to new beginnings, greeting the new situation with energy and enthusiasm.

This pastoral transition is also very much an ending and beginning for Mary personally - - ending a career she has loved, beginning a time of new adventures. Over the next month, we can all hold her in prayers of gratitude and grace while we celebrate with her the joys

that retirement will bring to Mary and Steve and their family. We will have an opportunity to celebrate as a church family with them on June 2nd, Mary's last Sunday with us. Join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship for a special brunch and sharing time.

Throughout the month of June, we will continue our transition toward new beginnings, as we prepare for Rich's arrival. Watch for opportunities to help Rich and his family settle into life on Whidbey as we greet him as a faith community for his first time in worship on July 7th.

As always, if you have questions or ideas about how we can be better extend love and hospitality to Mary in her ending and Rich in his new beginning, please seek out any member of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee.

Jennifer Morris, Nancy Barr, Sharon Berlin,
Leneen Carr, Marcia Dunigan, Larry Fox, Dana Kelly

June 2 is Mary's last Sunday with us, so come celebrate her ministry at worship and at a BIG Fellowship Time to follow.

We'll welcome Pastor Rich Füss and his family to LUMC on his first Sunday, July 7.



Spring Choral Concert

Langley United Methodist Church
Saturday, May 18 at 7pm

Suggested \$15 donation
supporting the LUMC
music program

301 Anthes Avenue, Langley

Langley UMC ~ 360-221-4233

Langleyumc.org ~ lumc@whidbey.com

My last weeks of ministry here at Langley United Methodist are speeding by all too quickly! I have just five more Sundays to worship with you. So I'm savoring each one as it comes. And here are some of the highlights of worship this month:

May 5 will be communion Sunday. We'll look at the story of the travelers who walked with Jesus on the road to Emmaus.

May 12 is Mother's Day and we'll celebrate Mother Earth. With Easter on April 21 and Holy Humor the following Sunday, we missed the chance to celebrate Earth Day.

May 19 is Graduation Sunday as we celebrate Mary Zisette who will graduate from South Whidbey High School in June.

From May 5 through May 10 I'll be attending the fourth session of the Two Year Academy for Spiritual Formation at San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville, CA.



This session will look at the "Spirituality of the Orthodox Church" and "Spirituality and Embodiment." This Academy is a wonderful mixture of learning, worship, and community, all leading to a deepening spirituality.

I've been packing up books in my office and as I do so, I've been "weeding" the collection, getting rid of books I'm not using. For those of us who love books, this seems to be a constant task! There just aren't enough bookshelves in my house to hold everything! I have several boxes of theological and biblical studies that will go to a seminary in the Philippines. And then I have books that I thought you might enjoy. I'm putting them on the round table in the Fellowship Hall. Please take any that interest you. The rest will go to recycling.

And it is still Easter! Easter lasts for 50 glorious days. This is a time to celebrate and rejoice in God's gift of new life. We see it springing up in our flowerbeds, we hear it in bird song, we feel it as finally the sun warms our skin. Where are you noticing new life? Are you learning new things, spending more time in meditation, feeling a deep sense of God's abiding presence?

This column feels even more scattered than usual, and I guess that's how I feel these days. This is a time of transition, and transitions are unsettling. I've loved this work of ministry at Langley United Methodist, but it is time to draw this chapter to a close. There are new possibilities ahead for me and for this congregation, but we don't see them clearly. I'm trying to stay in the present, mindful of how I feel, aware of what is happening. May a deep sense of God's loving presence surround us all as we journey through endings. We believe the Easter promise that new life will emerge, but for now, let's enjoy this time!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary".

May 5

COMMUNION

Acts 9:1-20

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

Luke 24:13-35

May 12

CELEBRATION OF
MOTHER EARTH

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 104

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

May 19

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 13:31-35

John 14:23-29

May 26

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:1-10, 22-22:5

John 14:23-29

Island Senior Resources: Here to Serve You



Wendy is a single mom of three young boys. Her father who has advancing dementia lives in her home so she can care for him. She's s-t-r-e-t-c-h-e-d. Juggling three active boys' lives, cleaning, cooking, shopping, and caring for her dad is a balancing act. Caring for herself was last on her to-do list, until she took our "Powerful Tools for Caregivers" class. She learned ways to care for herself that help her be a better caregiver. Our Family Caregiver Support staff helped her find resources that can help her and to plan for the future. She registered her dad for our Time Together Adult Day program. He has friends there who understand his dementia, and she has 4 hours a day, three times a week to take care of herself and her sons.

Wendy is one of over 10,000 people we serve each year. We serve one in every eight persons in Island County. 59% of the people served by our Aging & Disability Resources Program are under 60 years old. When you are seeking resources, planning, or assistance with for seniors, adults with disabilities, or those who care for them, we are here for you.

With locations in Bayview, Oak Harbor and Camano, we provide:

Aging & Disability Resources

Family Caregiver Support

Nutrition (Meals on Wheels and seven Community Meal Sites across the county)

Medical Transportation (with priority ferry boarding)

Time Together Adult Day Services in Freeland and Oak Harbor

Medicare Advising through SHIBA (Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors)

Educational Classes (weekly Lunch & Learns in Bayview and Coupeville, Powerful Tools for Caregivers, Chronic Disease Management, Social Security, and more)

Support Groups

Social Activities

Free Medical Device Lending Closet

Addressing the future:

Our community needs are changing as our population ages. In fall of 2018, as the basis for developing our new three-year strategic plan, we asked our community what you feel is most needed and where opportunities lie for Island Senior Resources to develop partnerships that will build community resilience for the path ahead.

We met with Langley Methodist Women and focus groups from other churches, government officials, other non-profits, WhidbeyHealth, representatives from all three senior centers, the Departments of Health and Human Services, EMS, Island Transit, major donors to Island Senior Resources, and hundreds of visionary community members across Island County.

(Continued on next page)

We analyzed the data for themes and trends. Most prominently expressed needs were for food, shelter, financial assistance, socialization, information, care and support, transportation, and health and safety. With your help we identified the threats to our community and services, what changes are needed to address those issues, and how we can build upon those to find efficient, effective, and collaborative solutions.

We will be releasing our strategic plan report by summer to be sure everyone who participated in the research phase, and our broader community can understand what we learned and support the evolving future. Together we can create a community where seniors and adults with special needs, their families, and caregivers are supported to maintain independence, dignity, and a thriving life.

Cheryn will be leading the discussion at Adult Forum on **May 19th**. See UMW page for details on her topic.

Government funding provides only a fraction of what it takes for us to provide personal, comprehensive services, to everyone in our community; the rest must come from generous donors. **You make it possible for us to do what we do.**

We are partners with you; we are all neighbors helping each other.

Thank you for your generous support.

Cheryn Weiser

Executive Director

New System for Fellowship Volunteers

After over a decade spent facilitating the fellowship time after church, Eve and Bruce have finally decided to retire from their roles overseeing set-up and clean-up. Beginning the first Sunday after Mary's retirement, **June 9**, volunteers will be needed to make Fellowship happen! We will try a new system. Each Sunday we will need volunteers to do three tasks:

- 1. SET-UP** which will involve putting tablecloths on tables, making coffee and setting out cups, sugars, cream, juices, etc. and putting out food provided for that morning.
- 2. PROVIDING THE FOOD** just as volunteers have done for years and taking left-overs home, donating them to the HUB or otherwise disposing of them. The church will still provide the coffee, tea, and juice.
- 3. CLEAN-UP** including running the dishwasher, cleaning tables and kitchen area, including consolidating the trash. If the dishwasher is too daunting you can bring paper products.



Some folks can choose to do the whole thing, but others may like to work with a bigger team of around 6 people. Personally, Tom and I would likely prefer to sign-up to do all the jobs on one Sunday a quarter which is allowed. Eve and Bruce will sign up for a Sunday, just like the other volunteers. There will be a sign-up sheet that lists the jobs and folks can sign up and coordinate among others signed up for that date.

Bruce and Eve will train you on how to use the dishwasher and coffee makers on the first Sunday you volunteer (saving an extra trip into church!). Directions will be posted and we're working on organizational ideas that will make this easier.

One or two members of the team will need to leave the worship service 15 minutes or so early to do the last-minute set up.

We all enjoy fellowship time. What are you willing to do to make sure it continues?

Sincerely;

Betsy McCullough on behalf of LUMC Church Council



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

United Methodist Women Next meeting June 13 Picnic at O'Neals



**Mark your calendar for our Thursday,
June 13 picnic at the O'Neals' home!**

Good food, good conversation, and we'll
award the Mission Recognition pin!

No meeting this month, but please join the Adult Forum on Sunday, May 19 after worship to hear the results of the Island Senior Resources Strategic Planning process. We were part of the input given to Executive Director Cheryn Weiser in a rich discussion when she came to our meeting last September. Now she returns to show and tell us what was learned throughout the county, and how ISR plans to address the issues identified by and for our senior and disabled community. Some of the findings are quite interesting!

Coupeville UMW invites us to a Salad Luncheon on Monday, May 13 at Noon.

The program is on "Early Women's Clothing on Whidbey island" by Sandy Moore. This is always a delightful and delicious occasion. I hope some of our members can attend, since I will be out of town. I went last year and enjoyed it very much! Carpooling welcome if there is a driver willing to take people along. They would like RSVPs to <mailto:cumcstaff4@gmail.com> or 360-678-4256.

There is also a salad luncheon with Port Angeles UMW on Wednesday, June 5 if anyone would like a trip to the Olympic Peninsula. Contact Nancy W for details and see our UMW bulletin board.



- 1 Will Collins
- 1 Diana Drake
- 3 Brooke Todd
- 4 Larry Fox
- 5 Ben Breedlove
- 7 Eve Carty
- 8 Arta Sandstrom
- 8 Linda Tuck
- 9 Laura Jiles
- 13 Annie Wheat
- 21 Clancy Dunigan
- 21 Carla Sousa Snell
- 23 Jenny Zisette
- 24 Harriet O'Neal
- 25 Liam Akhtar
- 25 Nancy Waddell
- 26 Anna Toledo
- 28 Carol Olson
- 31 Susan Gilles

Habitat for Humanity Island County

Heron Park Project

This proposed project has been in the Design Review and Planning with the City of Langley and could move forward next year, if the Rezone Ordinance is approved. The Ordinance is scheduled for a vote by the City Council on May 6th. If approved, it will amend the zoning map to change RS7200 to RM zone-residential mixed. Habitat for Humanity has plans to build 7-8 townhomes at 843 Third St, known as Heron Park. This property was sold to Habitat for Humanity by Ivan Neaigus and Talia Toni Marcus of our congregation. The Council of Langley United Methodist Church has written a letter of endorsement in favor of the rezone vote. Victoria Ritts will deliver that letter at the May 6th City Council meeting.

We applaud the City Council of Langley for their recent efforts in regard to the critical issue of affordable housing. On Jan. 22, 2019, Ordinance 1051 was approved by the Council. This set of housing code amendments are designed to decrease barriers for housing development and increase housing options for Langley's workforce. The amendments now permit more than one ADU per lot, reduce barriers to boardinghouse approval, and add Tiny Houses in clusters or standalone residences.

Victoria Ritts

LUMC will be taking a Special Offering for Habitat for Humanity in August.



Paul Jeffrey Sunday May 5 at 5pm

Fellowship Hall
with potluck.
Paul is a
photojournalist and
missionary in
covenant

relationship with LUMC. He is retiring and this will be his last iteration, so our last chance to see his wonderful photos and listen to his "lively" talk. The potluck beginning at 5pm will be Southwest/Mexican/Central American themed food. If you are able, please bring something to contribute. The program starts at 6pm.

Here's a bio: <http://kairosphotos.com/pauljeffrey/paulbio19.pdf>

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

Parsonage Work Day

May 18, 2019

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**We will be doing the preliminary fence work,
clean the flower beds, mow the lawn and
perform some minor touch-ups in the
Master Bathroom**

Please RSVP to the church office

or a friendly Trustee

Office-(360)221-4233

Heather Dubendorf

Dave Gural

Candy Ramsey

Greg Roger

Dave Snell

Thu. 2	Staff meeting	5:30pm	Office
	Choir rehearsal every Thursday	7pm	Sanctuary
Fri. 3	Men's Prayer Breakfast	7:30am	The Braeburn
Sun. 5	Sacred Harp Singing	3pm	Fireside Room
	Paul Jeffrey event	5pm	Fellowship Hall
Mon. 6	OFFICE CLOSED every Monday	all day	office
Tue. 7	Women's Coffee Breakfast group every Tuesday	9:30am	Clover Patch
	Adult Spiritual formation meeting	10am	Fireside Room
	Trustees meeting	4:40pm	Fireside Room
	extra Choir rehearsal	7pm	Sanctuary
Wed. 8	Pageturners book club	1pm	Fireside Room
	Women's Gathering	7pm	Prayer Room
Thu. 9	Thursday book club	2pm	Fireside Room
Tue. 14	Bible Study	10pm	Fireside Room
	extra Choir rehearsal	7pm	Sanctuary
Fri. 17	Men's Prayer Breakfast	7:30am	The Braeburn
Sat. 18	Spring Choral Concert	7pm	Sanctuary
Sun. 19	ISR Special Offering & Adult Forum	during and after worship	
Tue. 28	OFFICE CLOSED	all day	office
	Bible Study	10am	Fireside Room
Thu. 30	Parents Prayer group	10am	Prayer Room



Worship at 9:30am
Nursery available
Sunday School for
Kids at 9:45am
Fellowship Time
following worship
Adult forum at 11am

Office Hours
Mon. thru Fri. 9am to 2pm



*"Followers of Jesus
on a journey of love"*

Langley United Methodist Church

3rd and Anthes (PO Box 374) Langley, WA 98260 360-221-4233

www.langleyumc.org
lumc@whidbey.com

Pastor Mary Boyd