

# September Newsletter

## Sequim Seventh-day Adventist Church Newsletter

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### Vacation Bible School

by Collette Pekar



Vacation Bible School was great! There were 43 kids who attended throughout the week of July 24-29. We had an amazing team of volunteers to make it happen. Thank you to each one for your part in VBS. You are held in high esteem. Here are some highlights!



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We are looking at another year of Pathfinders! It's hard to believe the time is already here. We will have joint registration with Adventurers on September 7th starting at 6:30 pm. Please come and fill out your paperwork and get a new field uniform shirt that fits you (bring yours to exchange if you didn't turn it in!)

There is no "official" fall conference campout as clubs are gearing up for the big International Camporee August 2024. We may plan to have our own local one in the near future. We have struggled to put together much of a calendar because frankly we are all tired and a little burnt out. Just being honest here, but we need some new ideas and classes. I do have someone interested in teaching some biking but we could use some activities or crafts that maybe the kids haven't seen before! Do you have a special collection of something you think the kids would enjoy? Have you traveled and collected things you could share an experience with them? It's a big job to run a club and always figure out the next thing and I'm looking for a few people to step forward with some ideas. There are things we will do that we always learn. A little marching, some knots, pinewood derby cars will be on the list this year. We will also be doing some fundraisers for the camporee including selling pumpkin pies this Thanksgiving! I know the Lord will Bless us because He has promised that He will. I hope the Spirit impresses you to volunteer in whatever small way you can! If you know of a young person that could benefit from being in the Club pass the word along!

For questions or ideas please reach out to me.

Twyla Luke 360-461-0394 [luke@olypen.com](mailto:luke@olypen.com)

Student Sponsorship

by Mary Thayne

This is going to be a very interesting year for us and our church school, Peninsula Adventist Elementary School. You might have heard that we will have many more students in the school this year. This is true, and therefore we have many more students asking for help with tuition. I don't want to scare you, but we have 13 families asking for aid, including 17 students. Some of the families are returning from last year, some we helped in previous years and have returned, some are entirely new to us.

We believe that God has sent us these families, so with your help, we have agreed to aid them. As usual, some of the families we are helping can pay quite a bit of their own tuition. Others can pay only a small amount of it. Every family has to pay some.

Please start to think about what you can do to work with us on this. If each of our church families step up and donate, sacrifice even, to make this possible, it will be a great thing for our school.

Also let us pray, seriously pray, for each student, each family, that God will bless them, that they will find the blessings that they are seeking, and that each family situation will improve.

"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12:13

Library Corner

by Mary Thayne

Some new books have come our way:

A Pale Horse Rides. by Shawn Boonstra. Stories of barbarians who mysteriously converted and built their faith with nothing to go by but the words of the Bible.

Any Sacrifice but Conscience. by Walter C. Utt and Helen G. Pike. A continuation of No Peace for a Soldier mentioned last month.

Lemons to Lemonade: Finding God's plan for my life. by Sylvia Matiko and Pat Moore. One woman's story of moving away from God and how God called her back.

Design and Catastrophe: 51 Scientists Explore Evidence in Nature. Edited by L. James Gibson, Ronny Nation and

Humberto M. Rasi. Samples the overwhelming evidence of design and catastrophe in the world around us.



## Thank You, Our Dear Church Family

by Casey and Shari Bley

First, we want to thank you all for your overwhelming love and support during the past couple of years. Without your prayers and love who know what our lives would be like now? You welcomed us with open arms and hearts from the moment we stepped foot into the door, first Shari then Casey to follow. For that we will be eternally grateful.

Your prayers for us were answered beyond what we could have ever even imagined! Shari's recommitment to the Lord and Casey's unbelievable recovery from such a powerful addiction has been incredible proof of the power of prayer and really, even more so, his decision to dedicate his life to Jesus. What a miracle in our lives. Our hearts overflow with love for our God and for You, our loving Church family. We are so happy to be able to look forward to the rest of our lives serving Jesus.



The decision to leave this area was so difficult only because we will be leaving so many people that we come to love. We will never forget what you have done for us! We will be back to visit and hope that some of you will stop to visit us in Klamath Falls ( we had an RV hook up and dump built into our place).

Please continue to keep us in your prayers, as we will for you. God bless you all!

## Pathfinder and Adventurer Clubs Resume

Adventurer and Pathfinder registration will be Thursday, September 7 at 6:30 pm at the church. Come and join the fun.



Adventurers are for ages 4-9, and Pathfinders are for ages 10+



**Annual Corn Feed at the Reseck's Farm, Sunday, September 10, noon to 3 p.m.** Come and go. Enjoy roasted corn, hay rides, and fellowship. Feel free to invite friends. Food will be provided. 922 W. Uncas Road, Port Townsend. Bring your own chairs. Donations will be accepted for the Cedarbrook Adventist Christian School.

If you can bring potato salad, baked beans, or a blackberry dessert, please let Heather Reseck know. 360-301-2204



## Homeless Meal Update

by Twyla Luke

We haven't made tons of progress on the trailer yet. I did sell the deep fryer and sandwich station and purchased an RV type fridge. This was essential to make the most of the interior space. Before we can start using it for the meal, we need to figure out the wiring inside and build some new storage areas. The outside roof has been resealed but doing a logo is also something that will need to be done.

What I need are more willing volunteers. Currently it is Karen and Dave Iverson and Larry and I that are running it twice monthly. I really need another team leader. Someone willing to say that once a month they will lead out. It's not difficult work and very rewarding. These people consider us family and come to us with their life happenings and see this as much of a ministry as we do. If you feel touched to reach out and see how you might be able to help let me know!

Twyla Luke 360-461-0394 [luke@olyopen.com](mailto:luke@olyopen.com)

## PAES Update and Work Bee

School has started! Our staff consists of Michelle Noonan, Lynn Berg, Elizabeth Smith, Destiny Woods, and Kathy Mitchell. We will share more details in next month's newsletter.

We really want to thank everyone for coming out to the school's work bee on Sunday, August 13. We had so many people come and we are so thankful for all that got done.

There are still a few more projects that need to be taken care of if anyone is able to help: taking care of the wasp nests, installing coat hooks, touching up the paint in a few places, assembling a table, and more.

We also need someone to order battery operated exit signs and install them, as well as figuring out how to get outside lights installed before our Fall Festival.

We could use more permanent volunteers for the school year since we have more students. One of the main volunteers we need to find is someone who can commit to coming up every Friday from 12-1 to help students with some math. (Since our Friday is different it means we have to do math at a different time and not all the 3-8 will fit in the math room so someone needs to help a few of the students in another room.) We also have the need for more substitutes for next year. We would love to have other volunteers coming up as well if anyone is interested. (Reminder that background screening will need to be completed. Contact Jay at the church.)

We are also desperately in need for someone to be a volunteer Facilities Manager for the school. There are always things that need fixing or worked on during the year and the teachers are not able to get them done. I know there are many people who would help work on them, but we need someone to be the person we call that could organize the group of individuals that can come up and help us.

We are excited for this new school year, and the opportunity to serve our growing school. Thank you again for all you have been doing and I appreciate you being so willing to help us out in any way you can!

Michelle Noonan  
704-699-9202  
[dumamrg@hotmail.com](mailto:dumamrg@hotmail.com)



**Christian Education Workshop**

**by Karen Iverson**

Teresa Kelchner, president / presenter for Christian Education Matters, will present her seminar Sunday, September 24, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Teresa is a dynamic advocate and champion for vibrant Christian schools, with an outstanding record of guiding church congregations in establishing new schools, as well as coaching existing schools in growth and excellence. Your school board and the WA conference hired Teresa to coach us in growing PAES. Your board is already participating in monthly zoom consultations with Teresa, with positive returns on our investment. We know you will love her enthusiasm and insight to Christian education. ANYONE who loves our students and cares about quality Christian education is encouraged to attend. Please reserve September 24 for Christian Education Matters. Lunch will be provided. Any questions, please contact Karen Iverson at 360-504-2274



*Marketing As Ministry Workshop*

**DOES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MATTER TO FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION?**



**WHO SHOULD ATTEND**  
*School Board Members.  
 Principals. Teachers. Volunteers.  
 Pastors. Evangelists. Church Board Members.  
 Sabbath School Leaders. Pathfinder Leaders.  
 Lay Leaders. Men's/Women's Ministry Leaders.  
 Christian Entrepreneurs. Donors.*

**September 24, 2023**  
**9 am - 3 pm**

**FREE LUNCH**  
**RSVP 360-683-6170**

**Peninsula Adventist Elementary School**  
**255 Medsker Rd Sequim, WA**  
**RSVP: 360-683-6170**

**September Birthdays**

- 2 Sandra Garvey
- 2 Jerry Ley
- 5 Donna Woods
- 7 Sandi Christensen
- 8 Linnea Balkan
- 14 Becky Pittario
- 15 Marlene Madina-Ellquist
- 16 Eloise Gatchet
- 21 Ed Nelson
- 21 Scotland Noonan
- 23 Mel Zbaraschuk
- 25 Judy Berry
- 25 Jaidyn Casey
- 27 Mike Judd
- 27 Twyla Luke
- 28 Nate Ingersoll



Dear church family,

What a blessing you have been to our family these last few weeks! On August 5 at about 6pm our household had to quickly evacuate with our two cats because of record breaking river flooding that eroded the entire riverbank. By around 7pm, the house next to our condo lot collapsed into the river, and several other homes in Juneau, AK were damaged and condemned. Thankfully no one was hurt. We were amazed and touched by how quickly friends and family responded to support us with donations, prayers, and love! Abundant Thank You's to everyone! Donations were greatly appreciated as we bought things like socks, shoes, and toothbrushes to replace things that were left in our home during the evacuation.

On August 13, we were able to move back into our condo and the condemned status was removed. We are amazed and praising God that engineers and contractors in Juneau were able to stabilize our building so fast! Your support helped us restock our fridge as we had to throw out food because the power had been cut to our building during the emergency. One other condo building, housing 6 families, is still condemned and it is expected the repairs will take several months.



What comes next will be the long process of paying HOA bills for the repairs, both initial and long-term. All the condo owners will be expected to pay high dues to cover the work being done. Our HOA is unable to receive state aid for this disaster, so each family will have to pitch in from their own finances and apply for aid to cover the costs.

Again, we thank everyone for the blessing you have been to our family! Your support, prayers, and concerns

Kyle & Cynthia Lewis with friend/roommate Nate

make our hearts warm! We can see God working through you.



## God's Bees

by Richard J. Bascom

Through experience I have found that one of the most exciting ways to develop trust in God and learn more about Him is by participating in the Investment projects program. That program may be going out of fashion in some congregations, but it certainly has been an important part of my spiritual life.

For an Investment project, the church member dedicates time, talent, or money to some "business partnership" with God. The eventual cash profit is sent to the mission field to spread the gospel. I have always been inspired by the idea that I could go into a business partnership with the King of the universe.

My Investment project for a while was to produce and sell honey. After some research I purchased the equipment and ordered a starter kit of bees, consisting of a queen bee and three pounds of worker bees. They soon arrived in town via the U.S. Postal Service. Apparently mail carriers aren't required to deliver a bunch of live bees, so I happily picked up my buzzing package at the post office.

Soon I had the bees established in a new hive. They quickly began doing what bees do so well—raising young worker bees and laying up a store of honey for the winter.

Not long after getting the bees started, my wife called me at work one evening to say that an airplane was spraying the field just south of our house. She wondered if the spray might affect our bees. I asked her to talk to the fellow marking the rows for the pilot and see if he knew. The flagger said we should call his father, the pilot, and he gave her the number.

I called the pilot, Al, and asked him what chemical he had been using. Al was a beekeeper himself—a serious one; he had 50 hives. "We were spraying an insecticide that is very dangerous to bees. By morning you will be out of the bee business," he said.

I soon learned that beekeepers are supposed to register their hives so crop dusters will know where the hives are. Al generously offered to replace my hive with one of his own. But since I had not registered it, I declined. After all, it wasn't his fault that the bees had been sprayed.

My bee book listed the chemicals most dangerous to bees. Out of the top 100, the chemical my bees had been exposed to was ranked number two.

The next morning I took a quick look around my hive and found some dead bees. The following Sunday, prepared for a full and dismal examination, I opened the hive and found, to my great surprise, a literal "beehive of activity."

My books told me that a hive of honeybees needs 30 to 40 pounds of honey to survive through the winter. The bees are doing well, the book said, if they make just enough for their own survival the first year. In the second year I could expect some surplus, which I would sell, and give the proceeds for my Investment project.

In the fall of that first year I opened the hive to see if my bees had made enough honey to get them through their first winter. Imagine my surprise to find that the bees had made enough for themselves, plus 100 pounds of surplus.

When I told Al the news, he was very much impressed with God's bees.

**"For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills." Psalm 50:10.**

[taken from *Over & Over Again! 150 Adventists Share Personal Faith Stories About Stewardship*. 1998. NAD. Edited by Ronald Allan Knott]

# September 2023 Church Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<u>Upcoming Events</u> <b>October 14 Fall Festival</b> <b>October 21 Music Program at 7:00pm</b>				1	2 <i>Fellowship Meal, Team 2 at 12:30pm</i>
3	4 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	5 <i>ACS 10am-12pm</i>	6 <i>Prayer Meeting 6:30pm</i>	7 <i>Adventurer and Pathfinder Registration 6:30pm</i>	8	9 <i>Mission Spotlight 10:45am</i>
10	11 <i>School Board Meeting 6:30pm</i>	12	13 <i>Prayer Meeting 6:30pm</i>	14 <i>Pathfinders 6:30pm</i>	15	16 <i>Children's Church 11:00am Fellowship Meal 12:30pm Adventurers, 1:30pm</i>
17	18 <i>Church Board Meeting 6:30pm</i>	19 <i>ACS 10am-12pm</i>	20 <i>Pizza &amp; Game Night at PAES</i>	21 <i>Pathfinders 6:30pm</i>	22	23
24 <i>Workshop with Teresa Kelchner 9am-3pm ABC Bookmobile 4-5:00pm</i>	25 <i>Health Class</i>	26	27	28 <i>Pathfinders 6:30pm</i>	29	30

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