



## *The Weekly Chalice*

November 14th 2024

Sumner First Christian Church | 432 Wood Ave, Sumner, WA | [sumnerfcc.org](http://sumnerfcc.org)

"The glory of friendship is not the outstretched hand, not the kindly smile, nor the joy of companionship; it is the spiritual inspiration that comes to one when you discover that someone else believes in you and is willing to trust you with a friendship."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

I have been contemplating the word trust. For health and wholeness to be present in the world, there must be some level of trust. By definition, trust is not an individual pursuit. It is built between the spaces of one person and another...between groups of people...between communities, states, countries.

I have been pondering when I have trusted another...when I have felt trust betrayed by another...when I have betrayed trust. The point of faith and believing is not to do all the right things to culminate in a prosperous end point. The point of faith and believing is that it is a process--one that unfolds everyday we are alive. And the process is paradoxically hard, terrible, beautiful and joyful. Its the work of seeing each other, of seeing God in the other, of caring about the needs of others, confessing and seeking forgiveness and reconciliation when we've hurt the other.

I am curious to hear your stories about trust and I want to share some of mine with you. If you have story you'd like to share and have shared in this space, email me: [Pastor@sumnerfcc.org](mailto:Pastor@sumnerfcc.org).

I have been thinking about my dad these past weeks. My dad was a musician. He was a piano tuner/rebuilder who owned his own business for 50 years. I grew up in the 1970s and 1980s. We didn't have cell phones, computers or cable TV. We had three channels and the public television station: KEDT, Corpus Christi. There were two shows that I got extremely excited about every week: Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom and NOVA.

Wild Kingdom aired on a broadcast TV station and NOVA aired on PBS. Both shows introduced me to science, scientific inquiry and ushered me to places far away from my home and experience. I absolutely loved these shows and rarely missed watching them each week.

For years, my dad would donate free piano tuning services as part of the annual auction/fundraiser for KEDT. He worked the phone bank lines and was even interviewed one year by a local TV station. Dad was not a scientist, but he was curious and he passed that curiosity onto me and showed me the importance of supporting community efforts to educate.

Later, dad began listening to a particular radio talk show that pushed a mistrust of public broadcasting and scientific inquiry. He stopped supporting the annual drive for public television, but he remained curious and fed that curiosity by (continued)

reading National Geographic and watching the Animal Planet. He stayed curious until the end.

I am grateful to public goods and services like PBS that introduced me to so many things and made me curious about the world around me, especially the world outside of my own experience. This knowledge has never limited my trust in God but only expanded it. I have learned to trust God more as I have learned more about the beauty, intricacies, and expansiveness of God’s generativity.

What is your story and experience of trust? Of trust earned, broken, restored? How can you begin to expand your trust?

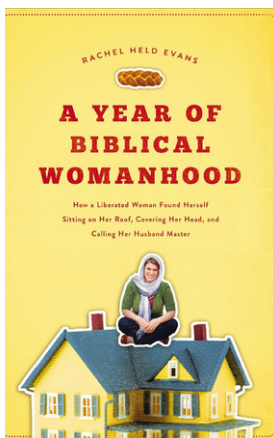
God does not call us to a safe harbor of isolation from one another, but to a community of trust. How can we live into this calling? -Rochelle+



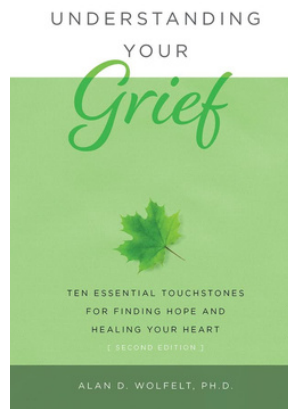
Open Art Studio Sessions -

+Thursday, November 21st at 1-2:30 pm & 5:30-7 pm

Bring a project or use the supplies and prompts provided – bring a friend!



Join us for our next *Year of Biblical Womanhood* gathering **Wednesday, November 20th @ 6:00 p.m. on Zoom**. We will be reading the chapter for October: Gentleness. Message Pastor Rochelle for a zoom invite: [Pastor@sumnerfcc.org](mailto:Pastor@sumnerfcc.org)



### Our next grant gatherings: Pausing for Grief During the Holidays

The next in our NBA-funded series of gatherings will take place in December and will center around grief and the holidays. Many losses and life transitions can induce grief.

Our gatherings will focus on bereavement caused by the death of a loved one.

“Grief waits on welcome, not on time,” writes Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt in his book *Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart*. This book will be our guide as we seek to create a safe and comfortable environment in which to explore and share. **All materials and catered meals will be provided. Groups will be limited to around 20 people. Register now to save your spot.**

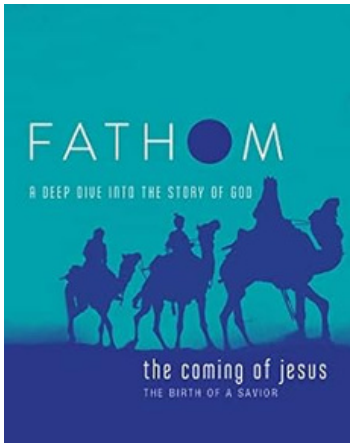
**Thursdays, December 12th & 19th  
5:30-7:30 pm**

**Fridays, December 13th & 20th  
12:00-2:00 pm**



One of our teachers, Haley I., works with 5th graders at a local elementary school. Many of the children are in need of basic clothing items and we will be collecting these through the holiday season: these would include everyday clothing items as well as warmer winter items. Children this age are typically a M-L size (10-12 for girls), but remember there will be children at either end of that average as well. Holiday sales will be coming soon and it might be a great opportunity to pick up a few items. We will be collecting these through Sunday, December 15th. Thank you in advance for your help!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 12:00 pm AA	2 12:00 pm AA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 9:00 am – 12:00 pm SCP Clean Day 12:00 pm AA 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Gwinwood Annual Meeting @ Retreat Center (Lacey)
<b>All Saints Sunday</b> 9:00 am Children's Worship & Wonder 10:30 Worship Service Elder Meeting after Service	12:00 pm AA	10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	10:30 am Al Anon 12:30 pm AA	<b>Open Art:</b> 2:00-3:30 pm 5:30-7:00 pm 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	12:00 pm AA	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00 am Fathom Youth 10:30 Worship Service Board Meeting after Service	<b>Veterans Day</b> 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm SCP Board Meeting	10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	10:30 am Al Anon 12:30 pm AA	12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	12:00 pm AA	12:00 pm AA
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:30 Worship Service	12:00 pm AA	10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	10:30 am Al Anon 12:30 pm AA 6:30 pm Book Club via Zoom	<b>Open Art:</b> 2:00-3:30 pm 5:30-7:00 pm 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	12:00 pm AA	12:00 pm AA
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 Worship Service	12:00 pm AA	10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	10:30 am Al Anon 12:30 pm AA	<b>Thanksgiving</b> 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	12:00 pm AA	12:00 pm AA



Our next **youth/young adult Bible Study** will be **Sunday, December 15th @ 9:00 a.m.** We are moving into the prophetic words about the coming of Christ. This will prepare us for the season of Advent & Christmas. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Rochelle (Pastor@sumnerfcc.org).



**The Weary World Rejoices** Advent, the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, begins on Sunday, December 1st. This year we will be exploring the theme of *The Weary World Rejoices* from Kate Bowler. If you would like to follow along, there is an individual guide available online. We will print a few copies as well for those who need print editions. We hope you will join us as we search for joy even in the midst of weariness and fatigue.



# Gwinwood Update...

The Gwinwood Annual Meeting went well and we give thanks to Kathy H. and Martha M. who served as voting representatives and well as to Robin C. and John R. for their participation on the Board of Trustees. As you might imagine, rebuilding the lodge has been a complicated process. The Board continues to work with Disciples Church Extension Fund, insurance, architects, local officials, etc. to rebuild. Please keep the Board in your prayers as they continue this lengthy work.

We are grateful to the staff of Gwinwood who continues to work to provide a place of Sanctuary and retreat not only to our camps and conferences and churches, but to many community organizations and groups. We are still collecting spare change for Gwinwood. You are also encouraged to consider making a gift to this place that has been so important to many of us through the generations.



**GWINWOOD Retreat Center**

**Gwinwood Lodge Rebuild**

- Rebuilding the lodge reusing as much as possible (i.e. stick and floor joist structure work)
- Staying within the existing footprint of the building
- Modernizing restrooms, including exterior restroom access
- Longer better arranged kitchen
- More storage
- Preserving chimney and fireplace
- Creating more welcoming entry on upper floor
- Capturing more on the view of the lake for both levels

WEDDERMANN

