



The Weekly Chalice

January 16th 2025

Sumner First Christian Church | 432 Wood Ave, Sumner, WA | sumnerfcc.org

"Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many
generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in." -Isaiah 58:12

I have begun listening to a new podcast hosted by Yara Allen and the Reverend William Barber entitled *A Breach Repairer's Song*. The podcast description reads as follows: "*A Breach Repairer's Song* is an immersive series featuring some of the most influential voices of our time who soundtrack the marriage between music as an art form and music as a tool for activism. Through interview, retrospection and the dissection of one song per episode, this show explores the deep roots music and the pursuit of justice and equity have in America's history--and how song can move us to action."

Music is empowering. I truly believe it was my playlist that powered my legs and my will to complete two marathons (back in the day). Music gives expression and life to that which is sometimes beyond our words and abilities or is sometimes too painful to verbalize.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Monday and I am mindful of all the work that has been done and the work that still needs to be done. It is the work of what is right and wrong, good and bad, but it is more....it is the work of what is just and unjust...for this is the measure of Isaiah and the prophets. The words of Isaiah 58 will ring in our ears soon as the season of Lent begins and

we are called to remember the baptism of repentance into which we were all baptized. And we will want to bask in the goodness of God and be embraced as *repairer's of the breach*, but we will have no right to claim it unless we hear and do the words of Isaiah:

"Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am." -
Isaiah 58: 6-9

Each day we have an opportunity to live in just ways--in the ways we carry ourselves, listen to each other, consider the plight of others and have empathy and compassion. Each day we have the opportunity to repent--to turn away from the things that are unjust and turn back to God. And maybe the inspiration you need is in a song. [Here's one for inspiration....](#)maybe you have your own. Listen to it. And live it. -Rochelle+



Pastor Rochelle will begin a Baptismal preparation class for those interested in learning more about the basics of Christianity and those interested in considering baptism. Classes will be held on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the small meeting room of the church office. All are welcome!

Sunday, January 19th @ 9:00 a.m.: Welcome, Hear and Believe

Sunday, January 26th @ 9:00 a.m.: Repent and Confess

Sunday, February 9th @ 9:00 a.m.: Be Baptized

Sunday, March 9th @ 9:00 a.m.: Receive Forgiveness

Sunday, March 16th @ 9:00 a.m.: Receive the Holy Spirit

In 1990, a simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat" was delivered to a small youth group at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC led by Brad Smith, who was serving as a seminary intern at the time. This gave birth to an idea.

Why not harness the energy and enthusiasm of Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football, food and fun, to unite the nation for a higher good?

UNDERSTANDING

YOUR

Grief



TEN ESSENTIAL TOUCHSTONES
FOR FINDING HOPE AND
HEALING YOUR HEART
(SECOND EDITION)

ALAN D. WOLFELT, PH.D.

Join us for a 10-week study of the book *Understanding your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart* by Alan D. Wolfelt. The gatherings will be held on **Fridays from noon-2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.**

Individuals and groups could collect dollars in soup pots and canned food for those in need and send every dollar and food donation directly to a local charity of their choice. The first year, they invited 22 area churches to join the team and collected \$5,700 with 100% of donations distributed to local-area charities. That was 1990. Since then, Tackle Hunger, with its signature Souper Bowl of Caring event has become a national, grass-roots, youth-inspired movement where ordinary people are doing extraordinary good. Over \$193 million in dollars and food has been generated while benefiting thousands of soup kitchens, food banks, meal programs and other hunger-relief charities in local communities.

We will be collecting food items for the Sumner Food Bank throughout January, culminating in our Souper Bowl celebration on Sunday, February 9th.

All changed collected in our change jar will also be donated to the Sumner Food Bank.

Thank you for your participation!

Our youth and young adult Bible study will meet again on **Friday, February 7th @ 2:30 p.m.** We will beginning a study on Matthew's Gospel. The book is out of print, but we will have some copies available. It is readily available in digital format. Please contact Pastor Rochelle for more information on location. We hope you can join us!

INTERPRETATION
BIBLE STUDIES

Matthew

Alyce M. McKenzie



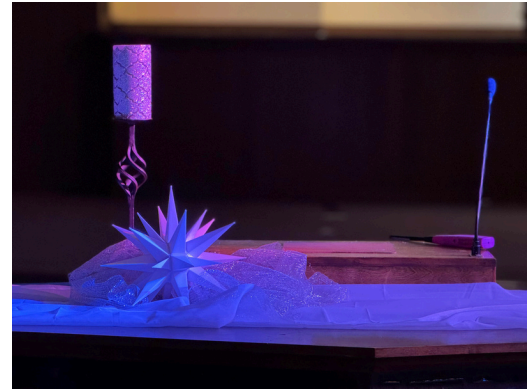
As a community of faith and Disciples of Christ, shared participation and leadership is vital to the health of every church. This spring new servant leaders will be asked to prayerfully consider serving in a variety of essential roles for our new church year which begins July 1st.

In Worship, Elders provide year round leadership for Communion and the Prayers of the People. Additional elements of Worship are ideally led by other laypersons... like you!

In the lobby is a signup sheet for weekly Scripture reading, and now a new opportunity for a monthly liturgist.

Liturgy is the form and content of our shared worship; the Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, and Blessing & Sending are liturgical elements. As liturgist, you'll serve for a month. The first Sunday of the month (or the day you'll read Scripture), you're invited to come at 9:30 am to be sure you are comfortable, run a sound check, and receive support or instruction.

The only need is willingness to help in worshipping our God. Worship is not a perfect performance, it is an act of love. Stop by the table in the lobby and sign up today!



January

2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA | 12:00 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 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 AI Anon 12:30 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Understanding Grief Study 12:00 pm AA | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm SCP Clean Day 12:00 pm AA |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 9:00 am Fathom Youth 10:30 Worship Service Board Meeting after Service | 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 AI Anon 12:30 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Understanding Grief Study 12:00 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 9:00 am Baptismal Preparation Class 10:30 Worship Service | 12:00 pm AA | 10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA | 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm AA 6:30 pm Book Club via Zoom | 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Understanding Grief Study 12:00 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| 9:00 am Baptismal Preparation Class 10:30 Worship Service | 12:00 pm AA | 10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA | 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Understanding Grief Study 12:00 pm AA | 12:00 pm AA |