



The Weekly Chalice

March 27th 2025

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

"When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted." John 6: 5-11

When overwhelmed with a large task, or multiple tasks, or the overwhelming weight of all that is happening in the world, it is easy to feel like you don't know where to start or what to do. In my own life, this has led to season of procrastination and avoidance. I don't know where to start or what to do, so I simply don't do anything. Can you relate to this feeling?

When Jesus and the disciples were faced with a very large, hungry crowd, they were also faced with what seemed like a big, insurmountable problem--how do we feed all of these people when we have so little? Andrew, who is not often elevated as one of the more important disciples (indeed even here he is primarily identified as "Simon Peter's brother"), makes a crucial observation--there is a boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. A boy's lunch--what is that among so many?

Apparently the boy was willing to share his meager lunch and that meager lunch became the basis for one of Jesus' greatest and farthest reaching of miracles--the feeding of 5,000.

The chalice, the symbol of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) bears the cross of St. Andrew (who was reported to have been crucified on such a cross). The cross of St. Andrew is also a part of the flag of Scotland. It is a fitting symbol for our church as our founders were Scottish Presbyterians who, among other things, believed in open access to the Communion Table. The spiritual and physical feeding of people is core to who we are.

Among many things happening in our current environment is deep cuts from the federal government to community food banks. A current \$1 billion funding cut and spending freeze is impacting local food bank's ability to serve their communities which includes food bank operations and food assistance to local school districts. We historically have had two collection drives in our calendar year--one for the beginning of school and one for the Souper Bowl of Caring. We will likely add another spring food drive for the Sumner Food Bank to help with the shortfall. And you may be thinking, "how is my small contribution going to make a difference?" Always remember the little boy and his lunch. No gift is insignificant or too small. Giving just a little can have a lasting impact.

-Rochelle+



Our annual Congregational meeting is set for June 29th after church. At this meeting we will vote on a proposed budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year as well as well as a slate of nominees for church leadership. Sumner First Christian Church is a registered 501c3 and is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Our Board meets once a month to touch base and make any necessary decisions about ongoing operations, ministry and needs. We have had a very dedicated group of folks who have served on our Board, some of whom stepped up during Covid and have remained. As the work of nominating leaders for the coming year begins, we ask that you prayerfully consider if God might be calling you to this work. A nominating committee is beginning its work. If you have questions or might be interested, please contact Pastor Rochelle (Pastor@sumnerfcc.org) and thank you for the many ways you support and enable God's work in our church.



Join us for a church work day on Saturday, April 12th from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. as we do some spring cleaning in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Bring yard work tools and cleaning supplies for inside. Lunch will be provided. We hope to see you there.



The Lenten Season in Sumner

During the season of Lent, we'll consider the fragments of our life, our faith communities, nation, and world, and how God, through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, mends our fragments and makes us whole.

You may wish to join us in these Lenten practices this season:

+Beautiful Fragments devotional card sets: Scripture, reflections, and Lenten practices to guide your Lenten experience.

Take home a set or follow online at [Beautiful fragments: A Lenten Devotional for Year C](#)

+Soup & Art – in the Art Studio: Thursdays in Lent at 5:30 pm. No experience or skill is needed (you have all you need within you!).

+Maundy Thursday supper service: April 17 at 6 pm (in person)

+Good Friday Cross Walk (Puyallup): April 18 at 4 pm (meet at the parking lot at 3rd St SW & W Pioneer).

+Good Friday Tenebrae service of shadows: April 18 at 6 pm



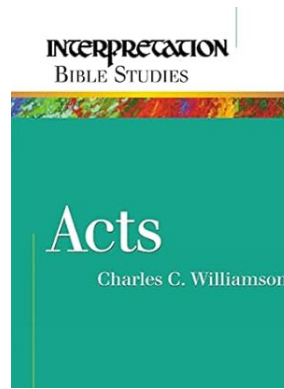
PLANT SALE

Sunday, April 27th @ noon (after church)

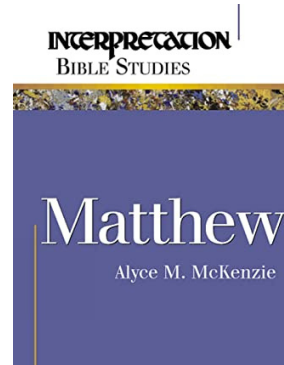
Becky Scholz, of Becky's Baskets, is generously donating flowers and plants for our spring sale. If you have small boxes that could be used to transport plants, bring those in advance of the sale and spread the word!



Join us for Children Worship & Wonder, Sunday, April 6th @ 9:00 a.m. All children are welcome to join in as we share story time, singing, open art time and the Great Feast (snack time). We hope to see you there!



Pastor Rochelle is planning on leading a 6-week Bible study on Acts between Easter and Pentecost. Are you interested? In person and online versions are being considered. **Please contact Pastor Rochelle to indicate your interest/preference: Pastor@summerfcc.org.**



Our youth and young adult Bible study will meet again on **Friday, April 18th @ 2:30 p.m.** We will be discussing chapter one of the study on Matthew's Gospel. Please contact Pastor Rochelle for more information on location. We hope you can join us!

April

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters	12:00 pm AA 5:30-7:00 pm Supper in the Art Studio 7:00 pm GA	12:00 pm AA	9:00 am – 12:00 pm SCP Clean Day 12:00 pm AA
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00 am Children's Worship & Wonder 10:30 Worship Service Elder Meeting after Service	12:00 pm AA SCP Closed for Spring Break	10:30 am Prayer Group 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA SCP Closed for Spring Break	10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters SCP Closed for Spring Break	12:00 pm AA 5:30-7:00 pm Supper in the Art Studio 7:00 pm GA SCP Closed for Spring Break	12:00 pm AA SCP Closed for Spring Break	9:00 am – 1:00 pm Church Work Day/Lunch 12:00 pm AA
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Palm Sunday 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 Sober Sisters	12:00 pm AA 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm GA	12:00 pm AA 2:30 Youth Bible Study 4:00 pm Puyallup Cross Walk 6:00 pm Good Friday Service	12:00 pm AA
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Easter Sunday 9:00 am Baptisms 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 Sober Sisters 6:00 pm Book Club	12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	12:00 pm AA	12:00 pm AA
27	28	29	30			
10:30 Worship Service 12:00 pm Plant Sale	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 Sober Sisters			