



The Weekly Chalice

September 3rd 2026

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



When I was pregnant with each of my children, one of the most exciting and daunting tasks was deciding on their names. It was exciting because we recognized the sacredness of giving a new being the name by which they would be identified, called and recognized throughout their lives. It was daunting for all those reasons too...**and** because you knew that no matter the name, **someone** would voice the opinion that you were choosing the wrong name (and they would also be obliged to share all their reasons why they thought that).

Names and naming serve many functions in our lives that parallel the functions of names and naming the Bible: Naming is a sign of authority and relationship. Someone has the authority to give a name and usually that is because there is a relationship between the one naming and the one being named, such as the relationship between a parent and child.

In Scripture God creates and has the authority and the relationship to name God's new creation...God then gives that same authority and relationship to the first of God's creation to give names to other parts of God's creation (Genesis 2:19–20). Other parts of Scripture demonstrate naming as a power of imperial force--taking something and renaming in order to show domination and to force assimilation (Daniel 1:7).

As we begin the Season of Creation and we focus on living water, I am mindful of the so-called "renaming" of large bodies of water, one body of water whose shores I grew up on and spent so many years of my life in. And I wonder, "who really has the power to name and rename the earth God created? The words of Psalm 24:1 echo this: "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." And so, we do not capitulate to those who would claim to have authority. Instead, we remember and ground ourselves in the One who has authority and power over all and demonstrates, through relationship, love for all.

-Rochelle+





Our Friday noon-1:30 p.m. Bible study will resume in September (stay tuned for details). The group will be studying the book of Genesis. Books and start date will be available soon.



Since Covid, we have been livestreaming our Sunday morning worship service. The livestream and recording is a wonderful ministry of outreach and means of expanded participation. We have a group of people, many of whom are unable to join in worship in person, who routinely participate online. **We are currently in need of additional video operators and slide "clickers" for Sunday morning worship. Our next Sunday of need for a video operator is on Sunday, September 13th. Training and shadowing are available. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Rochelle (Pastor@sumnerfcc.org) and thank you in advance!**

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	2 9:00 am–12:00 pm SCP Clean Day 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters	3 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	4 12:00 pm AA	5 12:00 pm AA
6 10:30 Worship Service	7 12:00 pm AA	8 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	9 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters 5:00 pm Elders Meeting	10 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	11 12:00 pm AA	12 12:00 pm AA
13 10:30 Worship Service Board Meeting (virtual)	14 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm SCP Board Meeting	15 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	16 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters	17 SCP First Day of School 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	18 12:00 pm AA	19 12:00 pm AA
20 10:30 Worship Service	21 12:00 pm AA	22 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	23 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters	24 12:00 pm AA 7:00 pm GA	25 12:00 pm AA	26 12:00 pm AA
27 10:30 Worship Service	28 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm SCP Back to School Night	29 12:00 pm AA 6:30 pm AA	30 10:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am AI Anon 12:30 pm Sober Sisters 6:00 pm Book Club via Zoom			