



MANITO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Message from Our Pastor:

Hello Manito Church Family,

Britt and I were having a conversation the other day and he asked me if I thought people would be changed by what we are going through right now. “Not over the long haul,” I responded, “unless people are intentional about maintaining the lessons and thankfulness they have learned in this season.”

This answer may seem harsh to some, but aren’t you and I are learning all sorts of things during this season?

We are learning to be thankful for the things we didn’t give a second thought about previously, such as handshakes, hugs, worshiping together on Sundays, visiting with friends and loved ones, attending school in person, or working at the office. The list goes on and on, doesn’t it? The sudden stop of all that seemed normal has also caused many of us to reevaluate our priorities and the way we use our time. But remembering what we have learned and putting it into action will be hard as life gradually goes back to normal.

When I was in grad school I rented a duplex with a friend. One day our shower and hot water connection suddenly stopped working. We called the landlord, who had a plumber come out to the house. We waited... and waited... and waited. Our landlord was hoping the plumber could procure an ancient part to make the fix, because if not, they would have to cut a hole in the bathroom tile to fix the issue. In the meantime, my roommate and I had no access to a shower or hot water.



When the shower was FINALLY up and running again, I was one grateful tenant. And EVERY time I got in the shower, I was thankful: thankful that the shower actually worked and thankful that it was hot.

I thought I would remember that thankfulness forever, but as the weeks and months passed by my thankfulness faded into the distance. I began to take my hot showers for granted once more.

We are in a season where everything we have taken for granted has suddenly been taken away or put on pause. When life starts to return to normal, and those things that have been taken away or paused return, I am sure we will greet them with thankfulness. But over time, as the weeks and months pass by, we may forget our thankfulness and the lessons that we learned during this season of hardship.

So how can we make sure we don't forget the lessons we have learned? How can we make sure we don't forget to be thankful for the things we take for granted? How can we make sure we are applying the lessons we've learned to our priorities and schedules as things return to normal? My suggestion would be to find a way to help practice remembrance of the lessons learned during this season. There are several ways we can do that:

- Keep a journal of all the things you miss and are thankful for.
- Jot down the lessons you are learning during quarantine and the ways you hope to change your priority and schedule as things return normal.
- Write a letter to yourself and mark a date in your calendar several months from now on which you will open and read the letter.
- Create a jar full of slips of paper that have all the things you are thankful for and the lessons you hope to remember. After the quarantine is over, take out a slip of paper from the jar once a week to remind yourself of the lessons you've learned.

Manito family, we CAN be changed for the better by the hardships we are facing right now, but only if we find ways to practice remembrance of what we have learned after this is all over. I hope you will join me in finding ways to ensure that we do not forget the lessons we are learning right now.

Peace,

Pastor TiffanyDeTienne

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Annual Operating Budget: \$246,685

April 2020	Year To Date thru April 30, 2020	
Income	\$16,748	\$93,643
Expenses	\$16,603	\$71,074
Surplus(Deficit)	\$ 145	\$22,569

Financially, Manito continues to be healthy. Pledged giving is very strong at 142% of budget. This is partially because some families who needed to take a minimum required distribution from their IRAs had their financial institution send some or all of their annual pledge, from their IRA required distribution, directly to Manito. This is advantageous to the giver in that the contact Finance Committee members, Chris Bafus or Greg Plummer. Operating cash on hand on March 31st was \$49,268.22, partly due to faithful pledged giving; and also from transfer of funds from savings into the operating account and carry-over from the 13th month giving at the end of 2019.

Please continue to support Manito through your tithes and gifts. Checks can be mailed to the office. You may also choose to give through PayPal – there is a link on our website. Also, giving can be done directly from your financial institution to Manito. Greg Plummer will be glad to provide information on how to do that.

The Finance Committee typically meets in the Memorial Lounge at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. However, meetings are currently being held on-line through zoom. Contact Greg Plummer, 509-838-8787, for information on how to attend. All members and friends of Manito are invited to participate.

Greg Plummer
Chair, Finance Committee

May Birthdays!!

- Pat Nash ~ May 6
- Wes Ackerman ~ May 7
- Susan Kieswetter ~ May 9
- Emma Kuney ~ May 12
- Ron Mensch ~ May 18
- Jeremy Graham ~ May 27
- Jordyn Wirth ~ May 27
- Mitchell Kuney ~ May 28
- Ed Haugan ~ May 31

Updated Directive from the Bishop

We have received an updated directive from Bishop Stanovsky to suspend all in-person worship through May 30, 2020. Manito UMC will continue providing an online worship service each Sunday.

The link to each week's service will be sent out via email and posted on the church's Facebook page. Members are invited to "tune in" on Sunday mornings at 10:30am as we continue to worship and celebrate together from the comfort and safety of our own homes.

Previous sermons can be found on the Manito UMC YouTube channel.



A message from Twinlow: Twinlow had closed down before the stay at home order to help slow the spread of this virus. The hope was to re-open later this month, however all of our spring and early summer groups have canceled or moved to the fall. This had taken a toll on our budget.

Twinlow needs your help right now. With no groups to host, we have no income besides the support of community and donors like you. Our goal is to keep the bare necessities paid, keep our team together, and make sure camp is ready when we are allowed to meet again. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 to help cover the losses we have experienced this spring.

To donate you can send checks made out to, TWINLOW, to our office: 22787 N Twinlow Rd, Rathdrum, ID 83858 or online by visiting our website: twinlow.org/donate.

Looking for ways to serve others???

Consider donating to one of our Ministry partners!

Manito UMC will have a team of individuals ready to receive and transport your donations to Shalom Ministries and Family Promise each Wednesday from 1:30pm-2:00pm.

Just bring your items to the Church parking on 33rd (across the street from our building).

Shalom Update:

What crazy times we are in and, throughout this mysterious virus, our team is staying vigilant (as you can see by the picture) by practicing the CDC recommended guidelines including social distancing.



Shalom's operations is considered "essential" because of governor Inslee's stay at home order that has excluded workers who provide or determine eligibility for food, shelter, in-home supportive services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals including individuals experiencing homelessness.

Our operations reverted in early March from inside dining to a Grab-and-Go system where meals are prepared and served at the Howard Street entrance door. Six of our Core-team members have

agreed provide the majority of the labor to prepare and serve the meals, thereby allowing our volunteers to stay at home until the CDC guidelines are relaxed.

Besides the additional cost of labor for our team, is the need for the many paper products and single serving packaged food that have added to the cost of the operations. So far, we have received some good support for the additional operational costs. However, we still depend on the continued support from many to sustain our operations.

The demand for nutritious meals remains strong. Last Monday (April 20th), we served 201 meals for breakfast and 276 for dinner. We expect the April 2020 meal count to exceed the 4115 meal count for March. Although we continue to serve breakfast Monday through Thursday and dinner Monday and Tuesday, we understand there are still some food insecurity gaps in the community. *continued*

The plan for the future is to start asking for volunteers, sometime in May, to help prepare the meals while we continue with the Grab-and-Go system. We remain thankful for the limited number of volunteers who continue to provide communications, shopping, accounting and maintenance to help keep us afloat.

Until then, please stay safe and keep Shalom in your prayers.

