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**Rose City Park UMC September 2023 Newsletter**

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## September 2023 Newsletter

### A Word from Pastor David

Life is so good! Yes, it is, and what a great motto to live by as we enter this new season of life together. There are many good things planned for Rose City Park church and community. Read this newsletter to find out more. Of many opportunities, Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth asks us to join others in the Pacific Northwest in exploring the M.I.L.E. together. As a stepping off point on this journey I invite you to join me in a three-week book study this October, "Life is So Good." This book is the autobiographical story of George Dawson. George Dawson, the grandson of a slave, learned to read at the age of 98. His life story and ability to say through it all, "Things will be all right. People need to hear that. Life is good..." is always an important message, but especially the challenging times in which we currently live. The group will meet on October 1, 8, and 22<sup>nd</sup> following worship. If you are interested or have questions, you can email me at: [dew@bu.edu](mailto:dew@bu.edu). A sign-up sheet will also

be available at the church on Sundays. I hope you will join us.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor David

## Music! Music! Music!

### Adult Choir

Join us Thursday evenings at 7pm in the Holman Music room for rehearsals. We have a good time singing different styles of music and enjoy the experience of singing together.

John Green, Director

### Bell Choir – Come Ring with Us!

Have you ever thought about joining the bell choir? I have openings and would love to talk with you about it. We meet weekly and my goal is for us to share in worship every other month. Contact me at 503-997-8411 or [jenniferoleary77@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferoleary77@gmail.com). Come ring with us!

Jennifer Holman, Director



## Collective Events This Month

Fall is upon us, and the building is buzzing with activities! One of the great things about the Collective is finding ways we can support each other's work where we find commonality. One way is to attend an event hosted by one of these wonderful organizations. Check out all these events that our building partners are having both in the building and out in the community in September:

**Blueprint Arts Concert:** *September 9th, 7:07pm*, Let's Go to the Movies! Come join Blueprint at the movies... with a musical ride into the silver screen! A fun show full of songs from terrific movies, features, and shows, this year's summer ensembles bring a wide range of repertoire to the stage. More info [HERE](#)

**Northeast Village Qigong Group:** *Weekly on Tuesdays from 9:30-10:30 am* in the Parlor at church starting September 12th. Northeast Village is hosting this weekly group, but it is open to the church and community as well. Everyone is welcome to attend this FREE weekly Qigong practice group, no prior experience necessary! Find out more info [HERE](#)

**Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra "Authentic Self" Concerts:** *September 15-17*, with soloist Sara Davis Buechner. More info [HERE](#)

**NW Children's Fall Theater Classes:** *Sundays from 9/17-11/12* in Youngson Hall and the Music Room. Check out option for classes from ages 6-14 [HERE](#)

**Swap & Play Fall Open House:** *Saturday, September 23rd, 9:00am-12:00pm*, in the Playroom and Youngson Hall. A morning of fun at NE Swap & Play with snacks, live music, and a fall craft or two. This event is free for members and nonmembers, spread the word to

your friends, family, and community. New membership discounts available.

In addition to these events, we continue to support the **Rose City Neighborhood Preschool** as they start their school year, **Greater Good NW** with collecting needed items (look for updates as the seasons change), **Collective Roots APG** as they regularly meet to support teens in recovery as well as their families, **POCA Tech** as they resume classes, **Coalition of Black Men** as they mentor youth, **NABVETS** as they support black veterans, **Portland Outdoor Explorers** after school program for RCP elementary kids, weekly **AA meetings**, **Boy Scout/Girl Scout meetings** and more! We are blessed to have this wonderful building that we can use to benefit our surrounding community.

You can check out Collective public events on the building calendar [HERE](#).

Elsa Johnson, Building Manager  
[building@rosecitypark.org](mailto:building@rosecitypark.org)

## "Life is So Good" Book Study

I read this book several years ago and discovered such an uplifting story and person of faith in George Dawson, the grandson of a slave, who learned to read when he was ninety-eight years old. The message of this book, "Life is So Good" is one we all need to hear today. I also would like to invite those interested to meet for 3 weeks in October- Oct. 1, 8, and 22, to talk together about the book. Please let me know if you want to be part of this small group opportunity! We will meet following Worship on those three Sundays after coffee. My suggestion is that we bring snacks or a brown bag lunch. Perhaps a pizza for our final class? Looking forward to getting together.

Pastor David

## Message from the Board

As we enter the lovely season of fall (my favorite), our church is doing remarkably well. Our finances are strong, we've gained many new members, we're making several much-needed building improvements, and we're re-establishing some much beloved events. Some of us who have been here for a while have been waiting for this moment. Those that are new can sense the excitement and want to participate. We are all ready to jump in and get things going! There are many ways to get involved:

There are Board positions opening up in the coming year: Co-Chair, Co-Chair Elect, Finance focus member, Personnel focus member, Facilities focus member & Ministry focus member.

There are many events coming up in the last quarter of the year that need leadership and team members to make them happen:

9/17 Congregational Gathering (new member welcome)

10/28 Harvest Festival

**10/30 All Church Charge Conference**

11/5 Collective Open House

11/11 Northwest Gender Alliance potluck

11/18 Christmas Tree Lot set up

11/21 Thanksgiving Dinner with Vets

11/26 Decorating the Church for Christmas

12/1-10 Christmas Tree Sales (Fri-Sun only)

12/9 Northwest Gender Alliance potluck  
12/10 Congregational gathering (looking back at the year)  
12/16 Breakfast with Santa

We **ALL** really need to pitch in and be a part of everything that makes this church wonderful. Remember the saying MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK...well let's **ALL** get involved and make these events great!

Chris Anderson  
Board Co-Chair



## Congregation News

If you have any joys or concerns you want shared, or a birthday you want included, please contact Patricia Holman at:  
[plholman1025@gmail.com](mailto:plholman1025@gmail.com)

We rejoice with those who celebrate birthdays in September:

9/5 **Emmett Baumgarden**  
9/12 **Della Beckham**  
9/17 **Tom Phelps, Beverly Walker**  
9/22 **Donna Moran**  
9/25 **Loretta Clark**  
9/26 **Angela Joy Allen, Donna Grobey**

### JOYS

Thank you to all the musicians who shared their talents in worship this summer.

### CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your prayers

**Tyler, LeAnn, Ernesto, Tom, Della and Tom, Richard, Charlene, Ashley, and Adrian**

**The Whitaker family as they celebrate the life of Sherri's father on September 30<sup>th</sup> in Madras, OR**

## Greater Good Northwest

As the weather begins to cool, GGNW is looking to stockpile items for the cold weather that will be here before we know it. Blankets, sleeping bags, socks, sweaters, hats, gloves, and hand warmers are on their wish list. These items may be placed in either of the two wooden barrels in the narthex. Canned fruits, vegetables and proteins are always needed. If possible, please select products with pull tabs that don't require a can opener.

## What is the M.I.L.E.?

In a series of sermons during this year's annual conference season, Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth outlined his episcopal priorities, summing them up with the acronym M.I.L.E. Bishop Bridgeforth encourages congregations and ministry settings to go the M.I.L.E. this year and focus on Jesus' call in the story of the Good Samaritan to "Go and Do Likewise."

M: Ministry that Matters – This first message in the series comes from the Alaska Annual Conference opening session, June 3, at Fairbanks UMC.

Columbia District Superintendent Tim Overton-Harris said, "Ministry that Matters is about how churches and ministry settings can go outside of themselves to turn from the mirror and look out the window to be part of their communities. Specifically, Bridgeforth preached about the need to be engaged in the work of houselessness and health in our communities."

Hear Bishop Bridgeforth's message at the link below (it's labeled Part 2): <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16z9-Wb9xy6Ts0fuTgaRYIRexOoKZ3DEb>

## Helpful Resources

### Pictorial Directory

If you have any changes to your contact information, please contact Patricia Holman at [p holman1025@gmail.com](mailto:p holman1025@gmail.com). Copies of the directory can be emailed to you by contacting Patricia, or a printed copy is available in the Narthex.

### E-mail Version of the Sermon

Would you like to receive an email version of the sermon? If so, please contact Deborah Weekley at [axismundi.dw@gmail.com](mailto:axismundi.dw@gmail.com). We are also planning to provide printed copies available at church on Sunday morning soon.

### Prayer Chain

Just as a reminder, the prayer chain is available to those that would like to request prayers. Also, if someone would like to join the prayer chain all they need to do is send a request to be added to the email address below. [rcpumcprayer@gmail.com](mailto:rcpumcprayer@gmail.com)

## Newsletter Deadline

All newsletter submissions are due on the first of every month. Please email your articles to Patricia Holman at [plholman1025@gmail.com](mailto:plholman1025@gmail.com).

# Rose City Park United Methodist Church

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