



October 2025

The Messenger

Shelton Presbyterian Church

Rev. Jeffrey W. Bursch, Pastor
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Thank you to our committee of women who helped package up the snacks for Teacher Appreciation.

OCTOBER PROJECT FOR OUTREACH MINISTRY

"The Outreach Committee will be collecting the following items for **Crazy Love Ministries** on Sunday October 12th, 19th, and 26th. **Handwarmers, flashlights w/batteries, tarps w/bungee cords, ponchos, camping size canisters of propane. Also, Bibles are always needed. Checks can be made out to Shelton Presbyterian and designate "Crazy Love" in the memo line.** To learn more about this ministry, visit their website at crazyloveministries.org or contact me (Jubilee Whitman) at jubileew@hotmail.com or (206) 999-5714. Thank you in advance for helping our neighbors in need."

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

JOIN US FOR THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP CLASS AND LUNCHEON Sunday, October 12th, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in the Lobby fellowship area. To register for the class, sign up at the Welcome Center or mark your interest on the yellow welcome card. You may also call or text Terri Saylor, 360-490-5174 to register or to obtain further information. Childcare will be provided if requested. The class, led by Pastor Jeff, is an opportunity for individuals to learn more about the church before making a commitment to membership. Topics that will be covered during the class include the church's history and mission, its core beliefs and values, the meaning of church membership, and how to get involved in church activities and ministries. Questions are welcomed. **WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU!**

WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Recently, I began watching YouTube videos by Philly and Keely. The young couple, originally from Ireland, started living out of their van during Covid. They record their adventures on video and then edit and upload them to YouTube every week for others to enjoy. They are delightful.

They have been making videos for five years now, but I had no idea who they were until just a few weeks ago when for some reason the YouTube algorithm thought I might enjoy their content, and they popped up in my feed. I guess YouTube knows me well because I look forward to their new videos every week.

I started watching them around the time they began to explore the United States. It's very enjoyable to experience your own country through the eyes of a foreigner, to see them interact with our culture and marvel at the beauty of the landscape. Additionally, Keely and Philly are very likable people. They are kind and sweet to each other. They treat others, the people that they meet along the way, with genuine generosity and respect. I enjoy watching them live their life. It feels like I am along for the ride.

But of all the things I enjoy about the videos, the one thing that stands out to me (and the reason I am writing about it here) is their attitude of wonder and gratitude. They both have a tremendous capacity to experience wonder and to express their appreciation. Every little town they visit is special and beautiful. Every sunset or ocean cove is noticed and marveled at. Keely's eyes fill up with tears when she stands beneath a redwood, or gazes across the ocean, or spends time with family. They both seem to be fully engaged in each of life's sacred moments and consequently are so full of joy. It's captivating and encouraging to me.

So that's my word for you today. Open your eyes to the beauty that is all around you, right now, in this moment. The glory of God, the goodness of God, radiates through his creation, in the wind, and rain, and sun, and in the faces of the people that you meet. Can you see it? Can you feel it? Can you give voice to the gratitude in your hearts? I know that you can.

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Pastor Jeff

Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study

Men meet Thursday mornings at 9:00 AM at the church. This study is led by different men in the church. Please join us.

Thursday Night Bible Study

This study is held every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm. The study is led by Pastor Jeff and is open to everyone. It is held in the lobby of the church. Please join us.

Women's Bible Study

Women meet Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM at the church. The study is led by Lori Matlock.



October Birthdays



4 Jean Williams	12 Dan Dickey
5 Mark Hermann	26 Terri Gushee

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26	
Lay Leader	Amanda Wilgenburg	Mark Schlauderaff	Margaret Dosland	Gary Sarver	

SPC Youth News

KIDS' CAMP 2026

Yes, we are already looking ahead to next year's Kids' Camp. BECAUSE....we will **need a new Kids' Camp Director for 2026**. Lyn Baker did an amazing job the last two years and will help with training the next Director.

The dates for next year's Kids' Camp are: July 6th for volunteer training, July 7-10 for Kids' Camp, and Sunday July 12 will be Kids' Camp Sunday. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please contact Marcus Clifton, Youth Pastor, at (206) 713-3334 or Lyn Baker, Children's Ministry, at (360) 549-6012.

UPCOMING OVERNIGHTERS FOR YOUTH

These overnights are a wonderful way for our youth to connect with each other in an atmosphere of fun, food, hanging out, and sharing God's love with one another. Games? YES Snacks? YES Time with friends? YES Plan to come and bring someone with you! Check out Marcus's flyers with more information at the Welcome Center in the church foyer. The dates they will be happening are:

Sat/Sun October 11-12 HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Sat/Sun October 25-26 JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH

Sat/Sun November 8-9 HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Sat/Sun November 22-23 JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH

Sat/Sun December 13 HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Sat/Sun December 20 JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH



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Tina VanderWal

You know when a song gets stuck in your head – sometimes it can be really irritating, especially when it's a commercial jingle for drugs like Oh, oh, oh Ozempic. Awful, right.

But there are times like one morning this week when I woke up with a wonderful song of praise in my brain. But it isn't an irritation, it's a blessing – a little gift from God. I'm usually missing some words in the verses, but that's okay, I can look up the song and reading/singing the words refreshes my soul. The song had the words "Today is a new horizon" in it. Sadly, I did not look that one up immediately. Today I searched but I couldn't find the exact song again. But I did find several songs with the words "It's a new horizon", all songs of hope for a new day, a new start, a better world.

Right now, we need that assurance, whether it's from verses in the Bible, friends and loved ones, songs from the praise band, or the songs replaying in our minds. We need to know that righteousness and justice will prevail; that in the midst of all the chaos in our world, our God still reigns.

Lord, thank you for your beautiful words of encouragement. Let us never lose sight of You. And thank you for your wonderful reminders in the songs repeating like sweet windchimes in our minds.

"Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns."

Revelation 19:6