

# This Week @ First



## Member Spotlight

The first week Anne was in town, a member of the church said to her, “You need to know Richard Bush.” When they met over lunch in a packed sandwich shop downtown, Richard spoke directly, yet softly, about his life of faith, “Accountability brought me before God in a church in a far away, foreign land.” Describing that in more detail, Richard remembered being struck still and mute for hours—awed in the presence of God.” There is always more to a story, and at the heart of Richard’s story of faith is a life which has included the difficulties of suffering and the beauty of grace. [\*\*Click here to learn more about Richard.\*\*](#)

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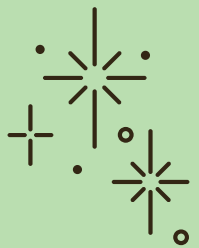
## Ministry Teams

### Worship & Music: Worship Links

To watch our Sunday worship at 11 am, connect with us on

[\*\*Youtube\*\*](#) (find the bulletin [\*\*here\*\*](#))!

Click the bolded words to follow the links each week.



### Compassion & Social Justice

[\*\*Interfaith Power and Light\*\*](#) is asking us to join them in urging Congress to pass a Farm Bill that addresses both hunger and the climate crisis. [\*\*Click here to learn more and sign the petition!\*\*](#)

### Property: Progress!

Restroom renovations continue. Glenn Laird reports that we have progressed from "tearing things down" to "**putting things back together.**"



### Care & Outreach: Potluck

On **July 23rd at 6 PM**, we'll gather in the Westminster Room for a Summer Potluck!

### Personnel

The team is developing written **personnel policies**/employee handbook. They'll also consider how to support the implementation of the **reKindle Impact Grant** the church recently received.

### Spiritual Formation

Spiritual Formation looks forward to the fall, building the Sunday school program and curriculum, and developing summer engagement.

# Interim Goals

## Healing

### Book Study: *Necessary Risks*

Our book study schedule:

- July 19th: Chapters 7 and 8
- July 26th: Ch. 9, Ch. 10, and Conclusion

The Zoom link is [here](#) and on the website.

## Worship and Program

Our sermon series this summer:

- July 16th: *The Risk of Listening*

We will follow the lectionary and look for risks God calls us to take.

## Administration

The **Care and Outreach Ministry Team** has begun the tasks of reviewing each member of the congregation and evaluating possible **cloud-based membership systems**. Stay tuned as we continue to understand who and how many disciples we are at Park and Adams!

Additionally, the **Budget and Finance Committee** is digging into the details of the **financial health of the congregation** as we transition to a new accounting system, move into the Fall, and prepare for a Stewardship season.

## Pastoral Note

How *did it* get to the end of July?

What I know is that wisdom literature teaches that for everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven. In all-the-things of being church, July marks eight months of the interim work. In early August, I will travel to Colorado with a clergy study group for Continuing Education. We will be learning from Rev. Dr. Andrew Root, who suggests that our task as church leaders is to invite the faith community and her believers to wait and listen for the generative faith God has for each of us and our churches. What does it look like to be invited into a more faith-full relationship with God, in Christ Jesus, who is always working through the power of the Holy Spirit?

As we plan for the Fall, a stewardship season, and along into Advent and Christmas - and even into Lent, I marvel. Thank you for the ways you show up. Thank you for the ways you care. Thank you for the risks taken to participate in a book study; to show up in worship listening and being shaped for risk taking in God's love and justice; and for the risks taken to participate in Compassionate Witnessing. I am curious - if you took a minute - what "watchword" might you find to describe how God might be calling us into the future as a people on the corner of Park and Adams?



Peace,  
Rev. Anne HK Apple