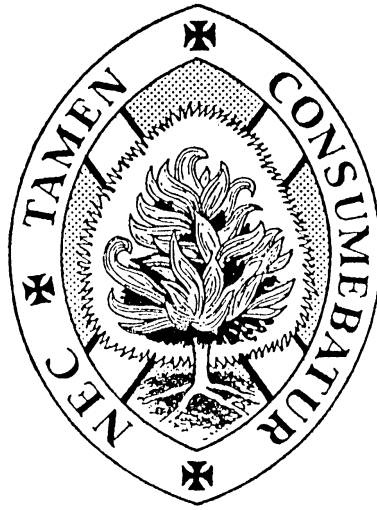


THE LORD'S DAY

September 13, 2026

8:15 am and 11:00 am Worship Services



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Ministers: Steven A. Nicoletti | Nathaniel H. Gutiérrez

S. Knox White | Robert S. Rayburn (Emeritus)

620 South Shirley St., Tacoma, Washington 98465

253-752-7601 | office@faithtacoma.org | www.faithtacoma.org

On the Cover: Since the time of the Reformation, the burning bush has been a symbol of the Church. The Latin words are taken from Exodus 3:2 and read "...and yet it was not consumed." In one of his letters Samuel Rutherford reminds his correspondent, "The bush has been burning these five thousand years, and no man yet saw the ashes of that fire."

The Lord's Day

September 13, 2026

Upon entering the sanctuary, please maintain silence for the sake of the congregation's preparation for worship, and please make sure electronic devices are off or using silent mode.

**Congregation standing*

+The congregation is invited to kneel.

Prelude

"A Quiet Reverie"Sylvia Riggs (1914-2010)

Welcome and Announcements

+Silent Prayer

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you! *Amen.*

THE LORD CALLS US

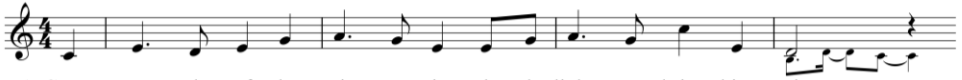
Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise to God

"Come People of the Risen King"

Words and Music by
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty,
and Stuart Townend

$\text{♩} = 112$



1. Come peo - ple of the Ris - en King, who de - light to bring him praise;
2. Come those whose joy is morn - ing sun, and those weep - ing through the night;
3. Come young and old from ev - 'ry land, men and wom - en of the faith;



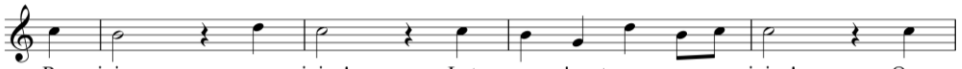
come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morn - ing Star of grace.
come those who tell of bat - tles won, and those strug - gling in the fight.
come those with full or emp - ty hands— find the rich - es of his grace.



From the shift - ing shad-ows of the earth, we will lift our eyes to him,
For his per - fect love will nev - er change, and his mer - cies nev - er cease,
O - ver all the world, his peo - ple sing— shore to shore we hear them call



where stead - y arms of mer - cy reach, to_ gath - er chil - dren in.
but fol - low us through all our days, with the cer - tain hope of peace.
the truth that cries through ev - 'ry age, "Our_ God is all in all."



Re - joice, re - joice! Let ev - 'ry tongue re - joice! One



heart, one voice; O church of Christ, re - joice!

THE LORD CLEANSSES US

+Confession of Sin

Silent Prayer

Corporate Prayer

We, O Lord, have been a stiff-necked people, prone to unfaithfulness. We have put other gods before you, and become their servants. We have not worshipped you in spirit and in truth, and so we have mocked your glory in heaven. We have used your name in vain and profaned your reputation on earth. We have desecrated your Sabbath because we have not trusted you to give us rest. We have not honored our fathers and mothers, and so we have proved ourselves rebels. We have hated our neighbors and murdered them in our hearts. We have made adulterers of ourselves in the lust of our eyes or in the deeds of our flesh. We have stolen honor and wealth and privileges that are not ours. We have lied and falsely accused, preferring gossip over the truth. We have coveted blessings you wisely and righteously gave to others. O Lord, have mercy on us, for we have not kept your law. In Jesus Name, *Amen*.

Declaration of Pardon

Isaiah 44:21-22 (ESV)

Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant; I formed you; you are my servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me. I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you.

*Hymn

"Father of Heaven, Whose Love Profound"

Edward Cooper (1770-1833)

John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

Rivaulx L.M.

1. Fa - ther of heav'n, whose love pro - found
 2. Al - migh - ty Son, In - car - nate Word,
 3. E - ter - nal Spi - rit, by whose breath,
 4. Je - ho - vah! Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son,

A ran - som for our souls hath found,
 Our Pro - phet, Priest, Re - deem - er, Lord,
 The soul is raised from sin and death,
 Mys - ter - ious God - head, Three in One,

Be - fore thy throne we sin - ners bend:
 Be - fore thy throne we sin - ners bend:
 Be - fore thy throne we sin - ners bend:
 Be - fore thy throne we sin - ners bend:

To us thy pard' - ning love ex - tend.
 To us thy sav - ing grace ex - tend.
 To us thy quick - 'ning pow'r ex - tend.
 Grace, par - don, life to us ex - tend.

THE LORD CONVERSES WITH US

Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings

"Morning Light" Carl Sandquist and Jon Schmidt

Procedure

- If you are new with us this morning, we would love to have a record of your visit and would appreciate it if you would fill out one of the little white visitor cards in the pew rack in front of you, and place that - and only that - in the offering plate as it is passed.
- Members and adherents can give by placing checks or cash in the plate. Envelopes can be used to designate ministries or, when giving cash, for contribution records.
- For online giving, text "faithtacoma" to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483) for a link to our online giving portal, or visit faithtacoma.org/give.

*We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator

Julia Cady Cory (1882-1963)
Mod.

Adrianus Valerius' *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626
Arr. Eduard Kremser (1838-1914)
KREMSEK 12.11.12.11.

1. We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2. With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer,

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our tri - bute we bring.
to You, great Je - ho - vah, glad an - thems we raise.

We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;
Your strong arm will guide us, our God is be - side us;

we bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
to You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise. A - men.

***Congregational Petitions and the Lord's Prayer**

Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Scripture Lesson

Deuteronomy 22:13-22 & 23:17-18 (ESV)

^{22:13} "If any man takes a wife and goes in to her and then hates her ¹⁴and accuses her of misconduct and brings a bad name upon her, saying, 'I took this woman, and when I came near her, I did not find in her evidence of virginity,' ¹⁵ then the father of the young woman and her mother shall take and bring out the evidence of her virginity to the elders of the city in the gate. ¹⁶ And the father of the young woman shall say to the elders, 'I gave my daughter to this man to marry, and he hates her; ¹⁷ and behold, he has accused her of misconduct, saying, "I did not find in your daughter evidence of virginity." And yet this is the evidence of my daughter's virginity.' And they shall spread the cloak before the elders of the city. ¹⁸ Then the elders of that city shall take the man and whip him, ¹⁹ and they shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver and give them to the father of the young woman, because he has brought a bad name upon a virgin of Israel. And she shall be his wife. He may not divorce her all his days. ²⁰ But if the thing is true, that evidence of virginity was not found in the young woman, ²¹ then they shall bring out the young woman to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death with stones, because she has done an outrageous thing in Israel by whoring in her father's house. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

²² "If a man is found lying with the wife of another man, both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman, and the woman. So you shall purge the evil from Israel.

[...]

^{23:17} "None of the daughters of Israel shall be a cult prostitute, and none of the sons of Israel shall be a cult prostitute. ¹⁸ You shall not bring the fee of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of the Lord your God in payment for any vow, for both of these are an abomination to the Lord your God.

Sermon

"Sex and the Bible"

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US

The Lord's Supper

Procedure

- The order will generally be the balcony, and then the main floor starting in the back.
- There will be two lines, with congregants entering via the inside aisle and returning to their seats via the outside aisles.
- There are two options for bread: regular bread on the plate or packaged gluten free bread marked "GF" in the basket. There are two options for the cup: wine in colored cups or juice in clear cups.
- The mobility impaired will be served in their seats after the line ends. Please be sure to alert one of the servers if you have that need.
- You are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper if you are a baptized Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, and a faithful member or adherent of this or some other congregation, recognized as belonging to the fellowship of Christian believers. If this does not describe you, the pastors or elders would love to talk to you further about this after the service. Please introduce yourself to one of them. We are glad you are here and commend to you this prayer for your use during the time of the Lord's Supper.

Lord Jesus, help me to see that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but that through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering me forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, help me now to trust in you as my Savior and my King. Amen.

As our covenant children are able to express their faith in Jesus Christ, we want to encourage them to seek admission to the Lord's Table (Book of Church Order 57-1). Our denominational constitution requires that baptized children be able to articulate a credible, age-appropriate confession of faith to the elders in order to be admitted to the Table. If you have a child who would like to begin taking the Lord's Supper, please reach out to the pastors, elders, or the church office to schedule a time when you and your child can meet with a couple of our elders.

Arise and shine, for your light has come!
And the glory of the Lord is ris'n upon you.
For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,
And deep darkness the people;
But the Lord shall arise over you,
And the Lord shall arise, the Lord shall arise.
Arise and shine, for your light has come!
And the glory of the Lord is ris'n upon you.

*Hymn

"Jesus Paid It All"

No. 308

1. I hear the Sav - ior say, "Your strength in - deed is small,
 2. Lord, now in - deed I find your power, and yours a - lone,
 3. For noth - ing good have I where - by your grace to claim—
 4. And when, be - fore the throne, I stand in him com - plete,
 child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."
 can change the lep - er's spots, and melt the heart of stone.
 I'll wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
 "Je - sus died my soul to save," my lips shall still re - peat.

REFRAIN
 Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;
 sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

Elvina M. Hall, 1865; mod.

ALL TO CHRIST 6.6.7.7.ref.
 John T. Grape, 1868

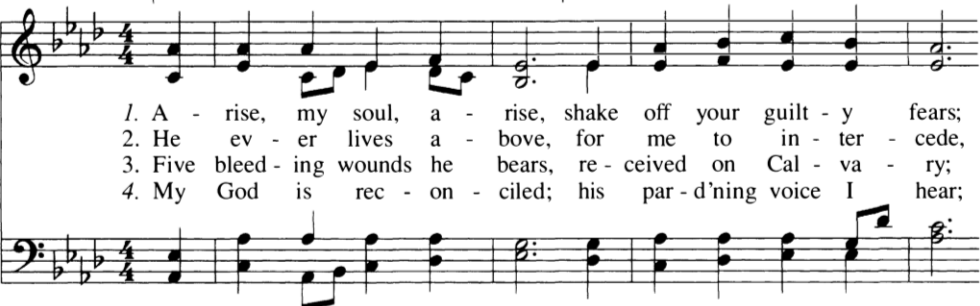
Reading of Scripture

Jeremiah 3:20-22, Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:4-6, Isaiah 53:11-12, Psalm 84, 87, 89:1-29 (ESV)

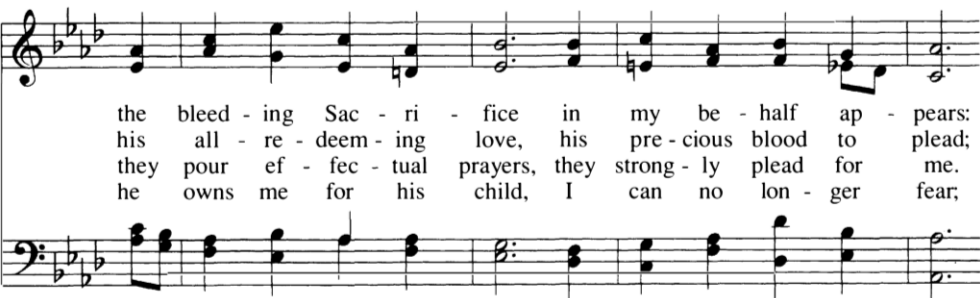
*Hymn

"Arise, My Soul, Arise"

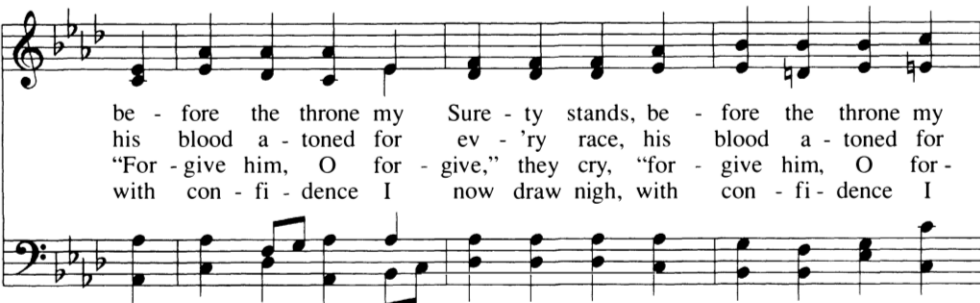
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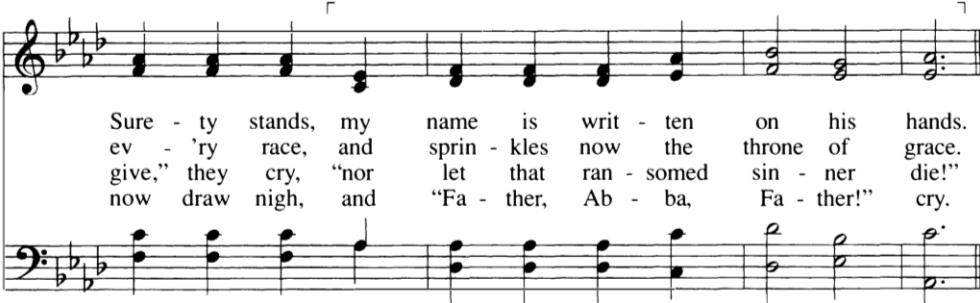
1. A - rise, my soul, a - rise, shake off your guilt - y fears;
 2. He ev - er lives a - bove, for me to in - ter - cede,
 3. Five bleed - ing wounds he bears, re - ceived on Cal - va - ry;
 4. My God is rec - on - ciled; his par - d'ning voice I hear;



the bleed - ing Sac - ri - fice in my be - half ap - pears:
 his all - re - deem - ing love, his pre - cious blood to plead;
 they pour ef - fec - tual prayers, they strong - ly plead for me.
 he owns me for his child, I can no lon - ger fear;



be - fore the throne my Sure - ty stands, be - fore the throne my
 his blood a - toned for ev - 'ry race, his blood a - toned for
 "For - give him, O for - give," they cry, "for - give him, O for -
 with con - fi - dence I now draw nigh, with con - fi - dence I



Sure - ty stands, my name is writ - ten on his hands.
 ev - 'ry race, and sprin - kles now the throne of grace.
 give," they cry, "nor let that ran - somed sin - ner die!"
 now draw nigh, and "Fa - ther, Ab - ba, Fa - ther!" cry.

THE LORD COMMISSIONS US

***The Charge**

***The Benediction**

+Silent Prayer

Let Your Gospel, O Lord, come unto us, not in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit, and in much assurance; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, who hast me brought in safety to the present day,
Keep me from sin in heart and thought, and teach me what to do and say.

Thomas Ford, 1580-1648, Ed. by Richard Proulx

Postlude

"Praise Ye the Lord (Psalm 34)"Robert Hughes (1916-1999)

DUTIES & VOLUNTEERS

Next Week, September 13, 2026

Welcome & Announcement Elders

Don Mellott

8:15 am

Steve O'Ban

11:00 am

Deacons Benevolence

Nate Shelden & Scott Bennett

8:15 am

Congregational Petitions Leaders

Jonathan Nichols

8:15 am

Brock Jorgensen

11:00 am

Nursery Schedule

Farnoush Katouzian & Elissa Burke

8:15 am

Ranee Clapp & Miriam Halinen

11:00 am

Coffee/Tea Hosts

Jennifer Sullivan

8:15 am

Ali Nichols

11:00 am

Building Monitors

Hans Kvale

11:00 am

Scott Bennett

6:00 pm

Next Week, September 20, 2026

Welcome & Announcement Elders

Paul Darby

8:15 am

Steve O'Ban

11:00 am

Deacons Benevolence

Mike Hanks & Hans Kvale

8:15 am

Congregational Petitions Leaders

Bruce Seiber

8:15 am

Ken Kvale

11:00 am

Nursery Schedule

Farnoush Katouzian & Shaylen Carlson

8:15 am

Alaina Matsuda & Dawn Darby

11:00 am

Coffee/Tea Hosts

Jennifer Sullivan

8:15 am

Ali Nichols

11:00 am

Building Monitors

Brandon Welch

11:00 am

Scott Bennett

6:00 pm

TODAY
Sunday, September 13, 2026

Morning Worship	8:15 am & 11:00 am
Sunday School	9:45 am – 10:45 am
Choir Rehearsal	4:45 pm – 5:45 pm
Evening Worship	6:00pm
Congregational Meeting	Immediately Following

Children's Sunday School

A Sunday School map with class information and locations is available on the website (faithtacoma.org/Sunday-School) and on the bureau in the narthex as you exit the sanctuary.

Adult Sunday School Class

In our adult Sunday School class this morning, Pastor Nicoletti will be discussing the paper "Towards a Theology of Mental Illness" by Marcia Webb.

Women's Ministry Fellowship Sunday School Class

Women's Ministry Fellowship Sunday School Class will be discussing cultural conversations at 10am in the Fellowship House.

This Evening

Pastor Gutierrez's sermon will be "Love: The Heart of Christian Service" from John 13:1-15. There will also be a congregational meeting following the evening service for the purpose for deacon elections.

CALENDAR

September 14 – September 20

For details please check the announcements below or the website.

You may contact the church office with questions: office@faithtacoma.org

Monday, September 14

- Better English on 6th 6:50 pm – 8:30 pm

Tuesday, September 15

- Women's Morning Bible Study, Fellowship House 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Wednesday, September 16

- Prayer Meeting, Old Narthex 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

"The wheels of all machinery for extending the Gospel are oiled by prayer." -J. C. Ryle

- Choristers Rehearsal, Choir Room *Begins September 30*

- Junior & Senior High Youth Groups, DeSoto Hall 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Thursday, September 17

- Men's Prayer & Bible Reading, Conference Room 6:30 am – 7:30 am

- PB&J Ministry, DeSoto Hall 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Sunday, September 20

Morning Worship 8:15 am & 11:00 am

Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am

Choir Rehearsal 4:45 pm – 5:45 pm

Evening Worship 6:00 pm

5 Year Anniversary Event Following the Evening Service

Upcoming Events:

WMF Fall Retreat, October 1-3

WMF Tradesies, October 9

Fall Youth Retreat, October 16-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bridal Shower for Felicity Matsuda

Ladies! We are so excited to host a bridal shower for Felicity Matsuda as she and Isaiah Davis prepare to get married in October. The shower will be held Tuesday, September 29th at 7pm in Desoto Hall.

The QR to their registry can be found below. Please make group gift checks payable to Elsie Dye.



Wedding Invitation for Isaiah Davis and Felicity Matsuda

Together with their families, Isaiah Davis and Felicity Matsuda would like to invite Faith Presbyterian Church to their wedding ceremony and reception here on Saturday, October 17th at 4pm.

Dinner will be served in DeSoto Hall, so please be sure to RSVP on TheKnot.com so we can plan accordingly. We look forward to celebrating with you!



Mothers' Encouragement Group (MEG)

The Mothers' Encouragement Group (MEG) meets every other week on Wednesdays at the Fellowship House from 9:30 am-12 pm. Come enjoy a morning of fellowship, discussion, prayer, and snacks with other mothers of young children. Join us as we do life together as sisters in Christ. Childcare is provided on site.

The dates for the 2026-27 school year are: Sept 23, Oct 7, Oct 21, Nov 4, Nov 18, Dec 2, Dec 16, Jan 6, Jan 20, Feb 3, Feb 17, Mar 3, Mar 17, Apr 7, Apr 21, May 5, May 19.

If you have any questions, please see Rachel Nicoletti.

Discipleship Groups

Calling all Senior High students! For many years our High School students have enjoyed participating in our after-school Discipleship Group program on Wednesdays from 2:20–3:20 p.m. Pastor Gutiérrez (PG) spearheads our D-Groups along with Pedro Moura, Ally Welch, Eva Battle, and Honor Tamminga.

Discipleship Groups are a great way for students to deepen their faith, study the Bible, discuss current events and issues in our culture from a biblical perspective, and build meaningful relationships with Christian mentors and other students. Guys and girls meet separately, with the girls meeting in the Exordium and the guys meeting in the Library. Our kickoff welcome back party will be Wednesday, September 16, from 2:20–3:20 p.m. We'll introduce the groups and leaders and enjoy some pizza and other yummy snacks together. Our regular D-Groups will officially begin September 30 and will meet every Wednesday from 2:20–3:20 p.m. We hope you will join us!

Milestone Anniversary Celebration

Our annual Milestone Anniversary Celebration date has changed! The celebration will now be held on Sunday, September 20, immediately following the evening service. Each year, we recognize couples celebrating milestone anniversaries in five-year increments—5, 10, 15, 20 years and so on. We don't want to miss anyone! We use the information listed in our church directory to identify our milestone couples.

If you're celebrating a milestone anniversary this year and your anniversary date or wedding year is not listed in the directory, please reach out to Khalia Bentson if you'd like to be included. More details will be coming soon. For now, please update your calendars and save the new date—September 20!

WMF Upcoming Events

Ladies,

Plan to get involved with women's ministry! Hear about women's ministry events for the 2026/2027 year. Contact Dawn Darby for more information.

Women's Sunday School

Sunday, September 13, 10am in the Fellowship House
Cultural Conversations

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesday, September 15, 9:30am in the Fellowship House
Kathleen Buswell Nielson's book "Isaiah: The Lord Saves"

Women's Ministry of Faith Kickoff Dinner

Thursday, September 17, 6pm in DeSoto Hall
Bring a dish to share that goes with rice

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Better English

Better English resumes Monday evenings starting September 14th! You really ought to consider joining us either Monday nights (6:50 to 8:30) or during the Sunday School hour (room 301). You will love it!

Reasons to try out Better English on Sixth this year:

1. Easy and fun
2. Love your neighbor
3. No commitment necessary

No training needed. Be blessed by blessing our international friends!

If you are interested, please speak with Kathy Lewis or Jonathan Nichols, or simply come upstairs to Room 301 and give it a try. We think you'll love it!

PB&J Ministry

We are making sandwiches here at Faith each week on Thursday at 9:00 am - 10:30 am in DeSoto Hall for the Tacoma Rescue Mission. Please join us if you are able!

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are seeking additional volunteers to help care for the children in our nursery during the services. This is one way in which we can keep our baptismal vows and also help provide young mothers with the ability to attend worship. If you are willing to help, please contact Farnoush Katouzian, our Nursery Supervisor. We hope to have enough volunteers that each volunteer would only serve a few times per year.

Tacoma Rescue Mission Meal Service

We serve a meal at the Tacoma Rescue Mission on the second Saturday of each month. Look for a bulletin announcement with details two weeks ahead of our turn to serve in the following month. If you are hoping to help us serve, please contact Sandy Milton, as you will need to complete a little paperwork a few days prior to your first time serving at the Mission.

Paid Nursery Attendant Position Available

The church is looking to hire nursery attendants to minister to our covenant children during both the 8:15 am and 11:00 am services. Applicants should be at least 18 years old, have experience with childcare, be able to follow safety and security policies and procedures, and should be regularly attending the alternate morning service. (We do not wish for this position to hinder someone from regular Sunday morning worship!) Please contact the church office if you are interested in applying.

WEEKLY ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Women's Ministry of Faith Tuesday Morning Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible study is on break and will resume on Tuesday, September 15, 2026. We will be studying the book of Isaiah using Kathleen Buswell Nielson's book "Isaiah: The Lord Saves".

Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study

Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study is on break and resume in the Fall. Stay tuned for details.

Young Professionals

If you are a young professional and are single, dating, or married (without kids) we would like to invite you to join us! We meet every second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm for dinner and discussions on topics relevant to Christian professionals. We also host events like hikes, BBQs, and bowling nights. Stay updated on upcoming events by contacting Nathaniel Gutierrez to get in the loop!

Mother's Encouragement Group

The Mothers' Encouragement Group (MEG) meets every other week on Wednesdays at the Fellowship House from 9:30 am-12 pm. Come enjoy a morning of fellowship, discussion, prayer, and snacks with other mothers of young children. Join us as we do life together as sisters in Christ. Childcare is provided on site.

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Men's Prayer & Bible Reading

We meet on Thursdays at 6:30 am in the Conference Room. We are currently reading in the New Testament. Please join us as we read and pray for each other and the world.

Seniors' Munch & Mingle

All seniors 75+ are invited to fellowship, encourage, and have some fun together every second Thursday of the month from 12:30 pm -2:00 pm! We will meet at Cogir at the Narrows, just a short hop from church! This time is for men and women and is always an uplifting time. There will be snacks and coffee or tea served. Come on out and meet a most fun group in the church! Contact Jennifer Sullivan with questions or if you need ride arrangements.

Seniors' Munch & Mingle is on a break and will resume in September. We look forward to a great summer of fellowship together, more details in the announcement section!

Small Groups

Pastor Knox is currently trying to gauge who is interested in signing up for small groups in September. If you are not already in a group and would like to participate, please email him at kwhite@faithtacoma.org.



October 16, October 23,
& October 30

Prospective students are warmly welcomed to this year's Preview Days!

Current 8th grade students have the opportunity to attend classes, meet faculty, and engage as a member of the Covenant student body for a day!

Limited Preview spots are available. Reserve your place today by scanning the QR code or contacting:

Malisa Munoz
Admissions Director
Covenant High School
Email: mmunoz@chstacoma.org
Phone: 253-759-9570