

# Welcome to Skykomish Community Church

a Word  
preaching,  
people loving  
community

Songs

Joy to the world, the Lord is come;

Let earth receive her King;

Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and heav'n and

nature sing.

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods,  
Rocks hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Communion Today: 1/1/2023
- Next Potluck: January 8<sup>th</sup>
- 358 Days until Next Christmas

Offering: place in box on the north wall in the rear of the sanctuary, use PayPal donate button on website, or mail to:

Skykomish Community Church

PO Box 56

Skykomish, WA 98288

# FALLING IGUANAS

POSSIBLE CHRISTMAS MORNING!

WINK NEWS



WHEN IT DROPS BELOW 45°,  
THEY CAN FALL OUT OF TREES.  
THEY'RE IMMOBILIZED, BUT NOT DEAD.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT I GOT FOR CHRISTMAS?



FAT. I GOT FAT.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

I asked a supermarket market worker where they kept the tinned peaches. He said, "I'll see," and walked away. I asked another and he also said, "I'll see," and walked away.

In the end I gave up and found them myself, in Aisle C.





# Prayer Spotlight

Anthony & Elizabeth Anunzio; Inchelium, WA  
Inchelium Community Church; Inland NW District

Inchelium is located eighty miles northwest of Spokane, WA. To access the town, we must cross the Columbia River via a ferry or travel 31 miles north on curvy river roads to reach Kettle Falls, WA. The church ministers to residents of the Colville Reservation and those who work in the local school and surrounding area.



# Prayer Spotlight

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Inchelium Community Church; Inland NW District

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

Pray for our youth group and for us as we minister to the needs of the students.

Inchelium Community Church recently received a semi-load of lumber for building a couple of storage buildings. Praise God! Please pray for wisdom for the church on how best to use this



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Inchelium Community Church; Inland NW District

gift and the building process.

We needed to replace a large window on the west side of the church. Praise the Lord that the church was able to raise the finances and that a contractor completed the window replacement.



# Prayer Spotlight

Jake & Kathryn Leichliter; Mayer, AZ  
Mayer Community Church; Southwest District

Mayer is in northern Arizona, a short drive from booming Prescott Valley. Historically a mining area (there are still many mines around), the area has been seeing an increase in population as people move up from Phoenix and from out of state. The main challenge for Mayer is the lack of water.



# Prayer Spotlight

Jake & Kathryn Leichliter; Mayer, AZ  
Mayer Community Church; Southwest District

## Prayer Requests:

Pray for our youth group, which has been active for about a year. We average 15-20 kids each week. Pray for salvation and spiritual growth for the kids.

Pray for our church as we seek to connect with families in the area.



# Prayer Spotlight

Jake & Kathryn Leichliter; Mayer, AZ  
Mayer Community Church; Southwest District

We are grateful to have a good relationship with the new school superintendent. Pray that we would have a meaningful partnership with the school.

Pray for our family as we navigate a very busy time in our lives—we have two kids in high school and one in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Song

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Be strong, do not fear, your God will come, he will come with vengeance, with divine retribution he will come to save you.”

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Isaiah 35:4b-6a (NIV)



Songs

Mark 7:24-37

The Unexpected

Mark 7:24-30 (NIV)

Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

Mark 7:24-30 (NIV)

“First let the children eat all they want,” he told her, “for it is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

“Lord,” she replied, “even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”

Then he told her, “For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter.”

She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.

A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)

He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

He replied, “It’s not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

“Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)

Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Mark 7:31-37 (NIV)

Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.

There some people brought him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue.



Mark 7:31-37 (NIV)

He looked up to heaven and with a **deep sigh** said to him, “Ephphatha!” (which means “Be opened!”).

Romans 8:26-27 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through **wordless groans**. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.

## Mark 7:31-37 (NIV)

He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, “Ephphatha!” (which means “Be opened!”). At this, the man’s ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. “He has done everything well,” they said. “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”



A poem posted by Paula Gordon Lepp:

Posted on [braidedway.org](http://braidedway.org) on June 24, 2021

Communion at the BP

It was a little thing, really,

this offer to fill my tire.

I was unscrewing the valve cap

and heard a voice behind me.

“Here, I’ll get that for you.”

“Oh that’s ok, I’ve got it” is what I normally say to such overtures, this knee-jerk reaction to refuse. I am the one who offers to help, I am the one who serves.

Perhaps it was the eager spirit  
on his face or his brown eyes  
full of hopeful connection that  
caused me to say ok.

I felt the vibration of  
his unspoken benediction-  
I can't do much for you  
fellow weary traveler,  
but I can do this. Lay  
your burden down and  
I will carry it for a bit,

and I couldn't help but wonder  
how many times I have denied  
someone the blessings of serving  
because I have been too stubborn  
to accept their gift.



As I was standing there in  
the sun drenched gas station  
parking lot, the hiss and tick of  
the air pump sounded very much  
like a psalm. I watched his hands,  
a few shades lighter than that  
Goodyear rubber, filling more than  
just my tire with air, while goodness  
and grace swirled around us  
stronger than the fumes of gasoline.



Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV)

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.



Numbers 6:24-26 (NIV)

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face shine on  
you and be gracious to you; the  
LORD turn his face toward you and  
give you peace.

