

# CHURCH AND HOME

UNIVERSITY CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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## Holy Week at UCUC

### Worship Services

#### Palm Sunday, March 20—10am

Catherine Foote, Preaching  
Luke 19:28-40

Today we celebrate Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem as well as our 125th Anniversary!

#### Maundy Thursday, March 24 – 7pm

This year's Maundy Thursday service continues our yearly exploration of the Tenebrae Shadows. The third shadow is "Loneliness/Aloneness", which Cristin J. Miller will explore musically with works by Stephen Sondheim and Steve Marzullo. Cristin is a Broadway musical theater veteran worshipping among us at UCUC. Come join in this powerful, poignant and ultimately uplifting service.

#### Good Friday, March 25

**Noon:** Join other University District churches as we host this year's Good Friday remembrance—hear reflections on Jesus last seven words.

**7pm:** Join other UCC congregations for a special worship service at Liberation UCC which meets at Madrona Grace Presbyterian at 832 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Seattle. Amy Roon and others will be preaching on the last seven words of Jesus.

### Be Part of the Family Picture!

#### After Worship Service on March 20, Palm Sunday

The entire congregation will gather in the Sanctuary immediately after Worship to take a "Family Photo" for the cover of our upcoming UCUC Photo Directory!

You will want to be part of this photo, which will also commemorate the 125th anniversary of University Congregational United Church of Christ.

Be sure to participate—you never know who might see this picture at our 200th birthday...

#### Easter Vigil, March 26, 7pm

Easter Vigil at UCUC is a highly interactive and creative service in which we light an Easter Fire, celebrate or remember our baptisms, walk the labyrinth, share in Holy Communion with one another and speak our first Alleluias into the darkness of a Sanctuary set for Resurrection. While the scents in this service are all from natural sources (such as the cedar and juniper branches used in the Easter Fire and ice candles) this service may not be safe for those with allergies or scent sensitivities.

*If you have not been baptized and would like to be baptized during this service, please see Pastor Amy Roon.*

#### Easter Sunday, March 27

#### Worship at 9am and 11am

Peter Ilgenfritz, Preaching  
Luke 24:1-12

Remember to bring your score for Handel's Messiah and join our annual postlude of the Hallelujah Chorus! Bring your children to the playground between services for an egg hunt! (see pg 4).

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# News and Events in Church

## Forums on Proposed Changes to Ministries, Boards and Committees

March 6 and 13, 11:30am, Ostrander Hall 1

A Council Task Force has been working on a plan to implement some changes to how Ministries, Boards and Committees are run. Come find out how concerns about information silos, too many meetings, leader training and an outdated, burdensome structure might be addressed. The proposed changes will be voted on at the May Congregational meeting.

## UCUCC Spring Yard Cleanup

Saturday, March 19, the Facilities & Equipment Board will host a yard cleanup from 9am to noon. Bring your favorite gardening tools and work gloves and join in! There will be extra tools available for anyone who may need them. Youth and older children are very welcome to help make our exterior more beautiful!

## March 13—Second Sunday Inquirers; And Consider Joining March 20

We continue our series of Inquirers classes on **Sunday, March 13**, after worship in Ostrander Hall, from 11:30 to 1:30.

We will serve a simple lunch of soup, salad and bread, and answer questions about our UCUCC church community—how it works, how to become more involved, where we came from as a denomination. It is an informal session that offers the opportunity for you to learn more about us. Childcare is provided.

**On Sunday, March 20**, we will be welcoming new members as part of worship. Membership is open to anyone who has been attending UCUCC for some time and/or has attended the Inquirers class. Why consider joining? It can enhance your sense of belonging and deepen your commitment to your own faith journey. Joining on Palm Sunday can be especially meaningful because it provides a reminder every year of your connection to this great spiritual community.

If you are interested in the Inquirers class, or in joining on Palm Sunday, please contact New Member Board Chair Virginia Felton at 206-526-5616 or email her at [inquirers@ucucc.org](mailto:inquirers@ucucc.org).

## Birth Announcement



### Nathaniel Dominic Barclay

Born: January 29, 2016

Welcome to the world Nathaniel!

Baby Nate was born at 1:22 am Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. A bundle of joy at 8 lbs, 8 oz. and 21 inches long! Delighted parents are Rebecca and Chris Barclay. He joins big sister Cora and big brother Andrew.

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## 2016 Directory Photo Sessions Continue

If you've been waiting to sign up for a photo session, now is your chance! Rob McAbee will continue to schedule people in the narthex before and after church for the time being. We have also opened Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5, 2016 for more photo sittings. And don't forget the all-church picture on March 20, 2016, Palm Sunday! If you prefer, you can still go to our website at [www.ucucc.org](http://www.ucucc.org), click on the 2016 UCUCC Photo Directory link and sign yourself up by clicking on the Online Reservations link!

For more information, you may also contact Bob Hackman at (206) 522-6581 (please always leave a message), or [rhackman@fredhutch.org](mailto:rhackman@fredhutch.org).

## Fellowship Breakfasts Every Sunday

Join us for Sunday fellowship breakfasts in the church lounge from 8:45-9:45 a.m. every Sunday through May 15. Drop in for nourishing food, creative activities, supervision for children, and the opportunity to connect with your church family.

## Noisy Coins!

Thank you so much for your generous donations of coins on January 31<sup>st</sup>. \$330.52 will be added to the January Special Offering which will be sent to help with Syrian Refugee resettlement. Our Noisy Coins make such a difference when added to the four 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special Offerings each year. Start collecting again! The next date is **May 29<sup>th</sup>**.

*Did you know that UCUCC has a Facebook Group? Join it and keep up with current happenings, photos of recent events, and more.*

# News and Events in the Church

## Lost and Found Stories:

A woman loses a coin. A shepherd loses a sheep. A father loses his sons. And in the losing, something is found. And without losing there might never have been such elation, such love made real, such grace. What about you? Do you have a story of a time in your life when you lost something? Maybe it was a home, a treasured possession. Maybe it was a job, your health or the sense of who you are. What did you discover, what did you find in that journey of losing? Did you also discover something you might never have expected, never have known otherwise? The focus for our worship service on March 6 is stories of lostness. Peter Ilgenfritz would love to hear yours. You can call him (206-524-2322), email him ([pilgenfritz@universityucc.org](mailto:pilgenfritz@universityucc.org)) or invite him to tea and tell him a story.

## Moving Mountains Youth Fundraiser and Celebration Dinner Saturday, March 12' 6-9pm

You, your family and friends are invited to an evening out to support the youth of our church! Enjoy a lovely dinner served to you by the youth of UCUC. They will provide entertainment with music and share stories from last summer's mission trips as you dine with others in the congregation.

Enjoy a silent auction where you can bid on the youth's time and talents (babysitting, yard work, help around the house, technology help, homemade blackberry pies, children's birthday parties, sports training and so much more!). All proceeds of the event help to offset the cost of the Mission Trips and the National Youth Event for all families. This allows all youth, no matter financial ability, to attend and be a part of the summer trips—sharing Gods love in the world. Help us Move Mountains and celebrate our young people! This is a family friendly event, kids are welcome to join and childcare is available if you'd like. Friends are always welcome too! **Tickets are now on sale in the narthex through March 6.** Ticket prices: \$10 adult, \$5 child/youth (ages 6 -18) or \$25 for a family of three or more.

*Church and Home* is published monthly by University Congregational United Church of Christ. Submissions are due the 15th of the month. Please send submissions to: [Churchandhome@ucucc.org](mailto:Churchandhome@ucucc.org).

## For Those Who Cannot Attend Church And Those Who Can

As we age we sometimes find that life presents challenges to us. Particularly poignant is the loss of loved ones—often leaving us feeling alone and isolated. We can also experience decreased physical and mental functioning. My husband and I are certainly aware that we are slowing down at this time of our lives. We simply don't have the energy we used to. It can be hard.

The following poem may be of help in deciding how to live each day, no matter what we are facing. Blessings as you travel the road that lies ahead. May each day be filled with grace.

### The Road

Here is the road: the light comes  
and goes then returns again.  
Be gentle with your fellow travelers  
as they move through the world of stone  
and stars  
whirling with you yet every one alone.  
The road waits.  
Do not ask questions  
but when it invites you to dance  
at daybreak, say yes.  
Each step is the journey; a single note  
the song.

~ Arlene Gay Levine ~

—Carol Scott-Kassner  
Commissioned Minister on Aging, UCUC



## Children's Ministry News

### Children's Choir

The Children's Choir is our vocal group for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. We have fun and develop our Christian faith through singing. To sign up, please come to rehearsal or contact Sarah Turner, Director, at [skturner@gmail.com](mailto:skturner@gmail.com). New singers are welcome! Rehearsals are on Sundays in the choir room. The main performance is on Easter Sunday, March 27 at the 9am service.

### Preschool Music Circle

The "Preschool Music Circle" is a gathering for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their adults at church. We will sing, dance and play together while learning Christian songs from accomplished music teacher Rachel Teigen Brackett. We will meet on Sundays 2/21, 2/28, 3/6 and 3/20 from 9:15-9:50am in preschool room 241. No sign ups—just show up!



### Family Pizza Night—with a Seabeck Camp Theme

Please join us for family pizza night on **Saturday, March 5** from 5-7pm in the church lounge. All ages are welcome. We will have summer camp-themed games and activities for kids as a way to get excited for our UCUCS Seabeck All-Church Summer Camp, July 10-15. Bring a joke or riddle to share at our Seabeck "campfire" reenactment. Please let me know if you plan to come so I know how much pizza to order. If you are able, please bring a side dish or beverage or nut-free dessert to share. RSVP to Rebecca Schmidt at [rschmidt@ucucc.org](mailto:rschmidt@ucucc.org). *Special thanks to the Phyllis and Ralph Swanson Endowment for Children's Ministry for providing funding for the pizza.*

### Family Pizza Night with an Easter Egg Dyeing Theme March 26

Please join us at church for Family Pizza Night and Easter egg dyeing on

**Saturday, March 26** from **5-7pm** in Ostrander Hall.

We will eat pizza, play games and dye Easter eggs for our children's Easter egg hunt that takes place the next morning at church. We will provide pizza, eggs and dye.

Afterwards, those who wish can attend our Easter Vigil Service in the chapel.

Please let me know if you plan to come so I know how many people to plan for. If you are able, please bring a side dish or beverage or nut-free dessert to share with everybody. RSVP to Rebecca Schmidt at [rschmidt@ucucc.org](mailto:rschmidt@ucucc.org). *Special thanks to the Phyllis and Ralph Swanson Endowment for Children's Ministry for providing funding for the pizza and Easter eggs.*



### Palm Sunday Processional

Children and families are invited to lead our Palm Sunday processional down the center aisle to the front of the sanctuary waving "palms" (local greenery) to begin our Palm Sunday worship service on March 20. We'd love to have lots of kids participate in this fun parade! To take part, please meet me in the narthex at 9:50am to select greenery, get excited and enter the sanctuary together at 10am. After the processional, families sit in the pews and the service proceeds as usual.

### Children's Activities on Easter

Come to church on Easter Sunday, March 27! We will have two services: 9am and 11am. Directly after the 9am service, we will have a children's Easter egg hunt on our playground. Everything the kids need for hunting will be provided (including bags for collecting eggs). Nursery care and Sunday school for preschool-kindergarten children and elementary special sermon time will take place at the 9am service only. Childcare will be available at the 11am service in room 239. The lounge will be set up with children's activities after both services.

(Continued, page 12)

## Ministry Update

~Peter Ilgenfritz

Our worship this Lent focuses on the element of "emptiness". In certain Eastern traditions and in Zen Buddhism, there is a traditional fifth element of creation besides earth, air, water, fire—the element of emptiness or "sunyata" in Zen Buddhism, the void which is the creative energy of the world. Emptiness is also found in Christian tradition. An ancient hymn in Philippians speaks of "Jesus emptying himself and taking on the form of a servant."

I've been practicing emptiness this Lent by cleaning out my closets. In a just a couple of months is our church's annual giant rummage sale called Superfluity. Every year we are invited to clean out our closets and bring those items that we no longer have use for, those beloved things that we at last need to let go of, and to let them be transformed in the magic of Superfluity where they will be put into the hands of those who will delight in them again and something like \$30,000 will be raised for all sorts of good work around our community. It's a huge effort. Some 200 volunteers will help get ready for the sale.

I'm doing my small part by cleaning out my closets and reading Marie Kondo. Kondo is the best-selling author of *The Life Changing Magic of Tidying* and has become an international phenomenon with her techniques for cleaning things out and making room for more joy. She

uses the practice of tidying to make room for the soul. It truly is one of the best "spiritual" books I've read in a long time.

Kondo believes that making room doesn't begin with attacking a closet and getting rid of things. Instead, she counsels that you need to begin with a vision of the kind of space you want and why you want it. Maybe you would like a space that feels more restful, peaceful. Whatever it is, it's making room for something new.

Margaret Irribarra Swanson, our Youth Ministries Director, sent out a letter to our youth and their families about the season of Lent. She wrote, "The popular practice of giving up something for Lent really has nothing to do with exercising self-control. Rather, it is a way to make space in our regular routines to allow God to do something new in our lives."

Sometimes, I am desperate for that newness to come. Sometimes, I'd rather not have anything change. But God is a God of newness. God empties tombs, makes a way out of no way. This Lent in worship I look forward to exploring with you the gift and meaning of emptiness. I look forward at home to continuing to empty my closets and gift Superfluity with lots of treasures. And yes, in it all, to empty some space in my life and soul—with a little fear and trembling, wonder and hope—for the newness of God to bloom.

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### From The Librarian...

#### New and Special books and DVD's in our Library Collection

- *An Inverted World: Exploring God's World through Art*: This beautiful book shows the story of our congregation's exploring of faith in 2014 & 2015 through many aspects of the arts.
- *The Father & His Two Sons: the Art of Forgiveness* Images of the Prodigal Son parable from the Gerbens Collection at Calvin College: belongs as a companion volume to Henri Nouwen's 2 books on this parable.
- Two books by our lecturer Alistair McIntosh:
  - *Hell and High Water: Climate Change, Hope and the Human Condition*
  - *Spiritual Activism: Leadership as Service*
- A bilingual book for children, parents, teachers, & everyone else, by Katie Kissinger  
*All the Colors We Are: The Story of How We Get Our Skin Color*,  
or (Spanish title) *Todos los Colores de Nuestra Piel: la Historia de por que Tenemos Diferentes Colores de Piel*
- The Easter Garden: a Lenten Experience for Children, by Doris Flegal
- 4-part DVD set of Diana Butler Bass's October lectures

## Youth News

### On-going Gatherings and Classes:

Sundays March 6, 13 & 20 Youth Group & Worship (*no youth group March 27 – Easter*)

#### 9am Youth Group

Youth in grades 6–12 are invited to join us Sunday mornings for our weekly gathering. Youth group is a place where we talk about things that matter, we do things that matter and we know that we belong. We will have times of discussions, activities, games and more. All youth are welcome!

#### 10am Worship & Youth Pew

Youth are invited to worship together in the youth pew or with their families.

#### Our Whole Lives, Sexuality and our Faith

Class winds down for our 19 youth and 3 volunteer leaders. It has been an amazing journey with these young people! We hope you have a wonderful end to your journey together.

March 6 – 5:30-6pm Dinner, 6-8pm Class

March 20 – double session: 4-8pm (class, dinner, end of class celebration.)

#### Wednesday, March 16: Junior & Senior Small Group

7-8:30pm in Pilgrim Room at UCUC

Youth in grades 11 and 12 in High School are invited to participate in our once a month gatherings. This is an opportunity for youth of this age group to share where they're at, support each other and explore questions of faith and life to help navigate these two years. Please contact Margaret Irribarra Swanson if you're interested in attending or would like more information.

### Saturday, March 12: Moving Mountains Youth Fundraiser & Celebration Dinner

6–9pm, Ostrander Hall

We are excited to put on our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Moving Mountains dinner for the congregation! This is a wonderful evening for all of us to come together to support the youth attending the summer mission trips and the UCC National Youth Event. Tickets are on sale now until March 6<sup>th</sup> – in the Narthex before and after worship.

### Mark your calendars for April: April 1–3: Boys Retreat & Girls Retreat

#### Boys Retreat

Tall Timbers Camp in Leavenworth, WA

Leaders: Bruce Wilson, Johnathon Fitzpatrick & Mike Miller

Open to boys in grades 6 – 12 (youth who identify as transgender are invited to attend the retreat that feels right for their sense of gender identity)

#### Girls Retreat

Lazy F Camp—in Ellensburg, WA

Leaders: Margaret Swanson, Kathie Forman, Leslie Riley & Sara Kerr

Open to girls in grades 6-12 (*youth who identify as transgender are invited to attend the retreat that feels right for their sense of gender identity*)

#### April 1 - Parents Social Evening

Parents, after dropping off the youth for the retreat that Friday, you are invited by the Youth Ministry Board to get together for a social time that evening. The Youth Board will be putting together more details and will be in touch. Please save the Friday, April 1st late afternoon and evening for some social time with other UCUC parents!

*Moving Mountains 2015*



**Contact Margaret Irribarra Swanson for more information on any youth ministry activity — [mirribarra@universityucc.org](mailto:mirribarra@universityucc.org) or 206-524-2322.**

# Becoming an Open and Affirming Church at University United Church of Christ



In April 1985, a group of church members met to talk about how to make our church more inclusive, welcoming, and affirming of Gay and

Lesbian members. 1985 was also the year our national UCC General Synod was set to vote on a resolution to become an Open and Affirming Denomination. Synod approved that important resolution, encouraging congregations to study and act on the issue so the ONA committee led the way.

That first small group spent a lot of time educating themselves on the issue, reading various articles, considering the first pieces of curriculum that were being written. In 1988, the issue was discussed at a Church Council retreat and in November that Council voted to endorse the Open and Affirming process and to make the ONA Core group a committee of Council. It soon became apparent that there was a need for education with the congregation.

The 4 session 2 hour study groups included bible study of passages that were used to oppose ONA issues; passages of support for inclusivity; some scientific research on homosexuality; reflections by well-known theologians; and most important, personal stories of individuals who had “come out” to family, church, friends and community. We tried to facilitate deep discussions and create a safe place where people could express both concerns and support. Eight of these study groups were held between 1988 and 1990.

At the same time, discussion around the issue was held in small groups in the church. Firesides, Women’s

Fellowship groups, all the various Boards and Committees were encouraged to find ways to discuss the issue. The members of the ONA support group were in leadership roles and some of them shared their personal stories of coming out as Lesbian or Gay or being the parent of a G/L son or daughter. These shared stories made all the difference.

Throughout this time, the ONA committee, while impatient to get to a vote, realized the importance of taking time for dialogue, prayer, education. When it came time to present a resolution to the Congregation at our Annual Meeting in 1990, 5 years after initial conversations began, the vote (78% yes) was in favor of becoming the 2<sup>nd</sup> ONA church in our Conference.

During the following months and years two important pieces of work continued. We became a resource for other UCC congregations wanting to begin the ONA process and we began, with other UCC churches, guiding the Conference through the process which finished when we voted to become an ONA Conference.

Conversations continued at University UCC as to how we could live out our ONA commitment. Same gender commitment services were held for members; we participated in the Seattle Pride Parade; continued education within the congregation; all were active pieces of the process. And a major statement of support occurred when the congregation called two partnered Pastors as the first gay pastors nationally to be called to serve a mainline congregation.

And the journey continues as new issues arise.....

*-Gail Crouch (Pastor, 1985-2000)*

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*(Investments, continued from Page 10)*

All our UCUC endowment investment funds meet our Socially Responsibility Investing commitment. In addition, one of the new funds offered by the United Church Funds, Beyond, Fossil Fuels, is, as its name suggests, a carbon-free fund which would offer a purer investment in the area of clean air and global warming. The investment committee is intrigued by this fund and has spoken with the UCF representative about the specifics of it. This particular fund would be outside the current council-adopted policies but we are very interested in the fund and are committed to continuing to look at it as an option for UCUC while we let the specifics of the fund management settle in.

Stay tuned for further information. If you would like more information about our work or to join us, please contact investment committee chair John Kloess at 206-202-7911, [jkloess@comcast.net](mailto:jkloess@comcast.net) or Church Administrator David Anderson, at 206-524-2322 or [danderson@universityucc.org](mailto:danderson@universityucc.org).

## Along the Way - An Anniversary of Love

On March 24th, our congregation will formally turn 125 years old. We will celebrate the birthday a little earlier, when we are all gathered together, on March 20th. This year, that day is Palm Sunday in the liturgical calendar. We will all dress up and gather together for a family picture, and our worship service will be a service of gratitude for the faithfulness of our ancestors who birthed and tended this congregation through a century and a quarter.

But though we will celebrate on Sunday, I am struck by the fact that March 24th this year in the liturgical calendar is Maundy Thursday. On that day in Holy Week, Christians traditionally remember two things. The first is the "Last Supper." As the story goes, Jesus gathered with his disciples on the last night of his life, and observed the Passover meal. In the midst of that meal, he took bread and wine and repurposed them into a meal of remembering.

The second thing we note on Maundy Thursday are the words of Jesus that gave that day its name. The word "Maundy" is derived from the Latin term

"mandatum," translated, "commandment." You can hear the same root in the English word "mandate." And the commandment that the term is referring to comes from John 13:34: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John, who begins his story of the Last Supper with Jesus washing of the disciples feet, concludes this servant gesture with Jesus giving the instruction to love.

In 1891, Easter was on March 29th. That year, March 24th was on a Tuesday. The church leaders incorporated our congregation in time to celebrate an Easter birthday. Back then, Congregationalists were probably not doing a lot with the other days of Holy Week. But I do love the fact that this year, in a community more tuned to all the nuances of the last week of Jesus' life, our birthday falls on Thursday. It is a day of remembering, yes. And it is a day of looking forward, in love. I doubt that we could find better words for our marking of this moment than, "Love one another."

~Catherine Foote

### Superfluity 2016

#### Huge sale—April 7-9—featuring Collectibles, Plants, Rummage

Mark your calendars and invite your friends to Superfluity 2016, our church's huge collectibles, plant and rummage sale on **April 7-9** in Ostrander Hall. Keep checking your closets, garage, or basement.

**We need more "stuff" to sell!** Bring your unused or superfluous items to room 133 on Sundays, or when the church office is open during the week. Help make this the best sale ever!

#### Here's how you can help:

- Hand out or mail postcards about the sale to your friends and neighbors. Cards are available in the office and in the narthex at the Superfluity table on Sundays.
- Divide and pot up healthy perennials for the plant department. Contact Evelyn Crichton at [ECrichton@aol.com](mailto:ECrichton@aol.com) or 206-283-3866.
- Make frozen soup, cookies, or other baked goods to be sold at the bakery. Contact Claudia Patton at [claudia.patton@outlook.com](mailto:claudia.patton@outlook.com) or 206-547-0923.
- Sort donations each Wednesday. General sorting takes place from **9:30 am to noon**; book sorting is from **12:30-2:30pm**.

Superfluity provides you with an opportunity to help others in our community. All proceeds benefit local nonprofits, including University District Youth Center, New Beginnings for Battered Women, Teen Feed, University Churches Emergency Fund and three different pre-school educational/daycare programs. Questions? Want to volunteer? Please contact Mary Ellen Smith at [superfluity@ucucc.org](mailto:superfluity@ucucc.org) or 206-525-0494, or visit the Superfluity website at [SuperfluitySeattle.com](http://SuperfluitySeattle.com).

#### Need Some Help Letting Go of your Stuff? Downsizing class offered March 13

For most of us, the actual process of transporting our superfluous "stuff" to the church for the sale is the easy part. It's figuring out what to contribute—what we no longer need or want—that can be really challenging.

There's help for that! After worship on Sunday, March 13, experienced "stuff wranglers" Vicki Farmer and Virginia Felton will offer a Downsizing Class in the Chapel. The class will help you better understand why it can be so tough to let go, and will offer practical suggestions and techniques for getting the job done. Please join us.



## Seabeck... Creation in Color!

### Summer Family Camp July 10-15, 2016

Heads Up! Be sure to look for your Seabeck Summer Family Camp registration packet in the mail, it should be arriving any day now. Sign up early to make sure you get a spot.

If you're interested in Seabeck and are not quite sure what it's all about, be sure to join us **Seabeck Sunday, March 6** where the Seabeck committee will be on hand to give you the full scoop on what to look forward to. Seabeck is a place where parents and kids can rest, rejoice and rejuvenate. There is something for everybody. We promise you will go home inspired.

This year we are excited to announce our adult speaker Rev. DaVita "Day" McCallister. Her theme **Creation in Color** is designed to inspire, provoke and challenge. The program will give us the opportunity to work our minds, spirits and bodies as we learn about Racial Justice. Dr. Day's program at its core is intended to provide participants with the skills to unmask and dismantle racism. The children's program will be full of games, adventures and learning opportunities that encourage us to embrace cultural differences. Summer Camp has never been this fun. And an extra bonus this year, gospel musician Rawn Harbor is returning as our camp musician (some of you know him from last year). Fun times will be had by all!



## Home and Hope

### UCHA Fundraiser Dinner

#### March 19, 5:30pm, Seattle Yacht Club

Last October, University Congregational Housing Association bought a house that will soon provide a home for five people who are living with mental illness. We invite you to join us for our 11<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser dinner to help pay down the \$425,000 mortgage. Our guest speaker is Graydon Andrus, Director of Clinical Programs with DESC (Downtown Emergency Services Center). We will also have a video from Transitional Resources, the mental health agency which will be renting the house and providing treatment for the residents. We will have good food, entertainment, and wonderful companionship to raise money for this important project, providing permanent housing for people who otherwise would be homeless. Tickets are \$60. Contact Claudia Patton at 206-547-0923 to make reservations, by Monday, March 14. There will also be a sign up table in the narthex February 28 and March 6 and 13. Please join us.

## New Director of Trettin Drop In Preschool

The UCUC Childcare Board would like to extend a big Welcome! to Nancy Dennison, the new director at Trettin, our Drop in preschool program located on the first floor of our church.

*I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself to those of you I have not yet met. My name is Nancy Dennison and I have just taken the position of Program Supervisor at the Trettin Drop In Preschool. I am originally from Upstate New York, but I had a long time in Sacramento, California before coming to Seattle in 1991. My first job in Seattle was at Trettin, then under the leadership of Juanita Watt. It was there that I decided that I was most definitely in the right field for me, and I also had the opportunity to work at (then) UCC Childcare.*

*While working at UCC Childcare, I took the first of many courses leading to my AAS in Early Childhood Education. I am currently enrolled in the First cohort of the BAS in ECE Program at North Seattle College. I have been fortunate to receive an almost full scholarship for this program and am looking toward graduation in Spring of 2018.*

*Having watched firsthand the important and sometimes life changing role that Trettin has in the lives of families; I was thrilled at the opportunity to bring my love of the program and my knowledge of licensing and quality care together to continue that work. I have had the good fortune to work with both Juanita Watt and Mary Jo Pierce, as well as having had a few conversations with Edith Trettin about how the school began. My experience working with Executive Director Michele Sorenson has me confident that we can bring all the classrooms of the UCUC Child Care Programs into greater alignment than ever before.*

For more information about Trettin and CLCC (Child Learning and Care Center) at UCUC, please contact Michele Sorenson at 206-524-3400 or [director@childlearning.org](mailto:director@childlearning.org).

## Imagine Campaign Update

*Margaret Stine*

Our church is becoming more moderate. Say what!? No, no – not our policies, our room temperatures! That is one review we've received following the installation of replacement windows in most of the main and top floor rooms of the church. These new double paned windows are keeping the temperatures more even and the rooms more comfortable for our staff & other church users. In addition to moderating temperature, they have cut down on street noise coming in the building. Now, there is a good chance that the only voices you will hear in a meeting are coming from folks actually in the room. If you haven't looked at them up close yet, check out the lounge windows. I think they look great, too. We are still working with our budget and the vendor to see how many more windows can be replaced in this project. While we are on the subject of looking great, have you seen the new wall and plantings along 45<sup>th</sup> St below Lot C?



## UCUCC Investment Committee At Work

The mission of the Investment Committee is to oversee the investment of the church's endowment and non-endowed money as prudently as possible for long term growth and income. The UCUCC church council has adopted a set of investment policies which the investment committee follows. We use the United Church Funds, Inc. (UCF) to manage our endowment funds.

One of the advantages of using United Church Funds is their Socially Responsibility Investing (SRI) commitments. Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) is the process of selecting companies to invest in that have sustainable and ethical Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices, while challenging those that don't to amend their business strategies. UCF's

Gone is the ivy and blackberry wilderness sliding downhill to the sidewalk. In its place is a sturdy block wall and plantings designed to thickly cover the slope with low maintenance color and texture. Some of the plants chosen for this area are, or will be, repeated in other beds around the church to create a more unifying landscape presence. Many thanks to the volunteers who led, or were led, in doing this work.

As has been stated previously, the Implementation Committee is currently evaluating our project list and budget to ensure that we are faithfully using the Imagine funds available as best we can. Several projects that were on the list approved by the congregation in Sept of 2012 have changed over time. Some, like the New Church Start (Simple Path) and the Reader Board are on hold. Another, replacing our building's air handlers, is no longer the imminent need it seemed a few years ago. Projects such as Window Replacement and the Lounge/Narthex remodel are underfunded. Church Council, in approving the Imagine Campaign Implementation, made a provision that any changes to a line item budget of over 10% be approved by the Council. (You can see these items in the council minutes that are in C&H) It is one way we are kept accountable to the congregation's vision. If you have any questions about the changes we are proposing, feel free to talk to me or other ICIC members.

SRI program reflects our belief that faith-based investing align with the principles of the United Church of Christ. Additionally, the long-term investing strategy is best achieved when companies are operating in a sustainable manner. Companies that have the most comprehensive ESG improvement plans tend to be better long-term performers.

Using a multi-faceted approach, UCF's SRI strategy incorporates corporate engagements, shareholder resolutions, collaboration with key partners, proxy voting and screened portfolios. Along with encouraging managers to invest responsibly, the heart of the program is in shareholder activism and using UCF's economic leverage to maintain ongoing corporate engagements.

*(Continued, page 7)*

## Church Council News

### January 2016 Council Summary

#### Financial report – Don Guthrie

Don reported that total revenue was ahead of budget and pledges were 98.2% of budget for 2015. Parking revenue for Lot C was higher than budget.

Expenses were 100.8% of budget, which is very close given the size of the budget. Variances were in Personnel due to staff turnover and an error with the insurance broker's quote. Parish life was greater than budgeted due to the cost of paper products.

Washable mugs are now being used for coffee before and after church to help contain costs.

Don was thanked for the nice clear format of the budget reports.

A generous bequest from Barbara Bryan was accepted with gratitude. The bequest will be distributed between the New Initiatives Fund; the balance to the General Endowment Fund in accordance with the policy passed in 2007.

\$2,500 in Church Council Special Projects (Acct # 601410) was designated for use for 125th events.

A letter was authorized to be written expressing UCUCS Church Council support and encouragement of the Tent City Collective (TCC) of the University of Washington in their efforts to move Tent City 3 to the UW Campus.

#### Structure Task Force - Roberta Hollowell

The Structure Task Force members are Jan von Lehe, Amy Roon, Kathryn Murdock, Carol McRoberts, Ed Coleman, Tim Croll and Roberta Hollowell.

The Task Force is working to clarify the new structure, as presented at the Leadership Retreat; creating an initial suggestion for what current Boards will go with what Ministry Teams; clarifying how the Toolkits (support areas) will be implemented and writing out Ministry Council representative position description.

The restructuring will not affect the budgeting process. The Boards will still create their own budgets and have a representative on the budget committee.

#### Personnel Committee update - Kathy Turner

Kathy reviewed the Guiding principles that the Personnel committee is using as they consider administrative changes. The guiding principles include: Justice – pay competitive salaries and reduce using part-time employees with no benefits; consolidate positions to provide a seamless and informed office communication; clear priorities for administrative support; online tools to reduce “touch time”; recommend 2016 personnel budget and stretch recommendations for program support for Parish Care, Small Groups, Adult Ed, Love and Justice.

*Summary submitted by Roberta Hollowell, Council Secretary*

### Lend Me Your Ears!

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears! We don't know the response to this request but - if you are experiencing a difficult time in your life and would appreciate having someone listen to you, someone is here.

Our church has a group of people who have been trained in ways to be compassionate listeners. This is our BeFriender ministry.

A BeFriender will meet with you and this relationship will be held in utmost confidence. If a minister referred you to this program, he/she will know that you were referred to a BeFriender. The only person, other than you and your BeFriender, who will know that you are meeting and who your BeFriender is, is the person in this ministry leadership who matches BeFrienders with BeFrien-dees. What you and your BeFriender discuss is held in strictest confidence by the BeFriender. You, of course, are free to discuss the relationship with others if you wish.

A BeFriender is a caring, compassionate and confidential listener. A BeFriender is not an advice-giver, does not give guidance and is not judgmental. One description of the BeFriender ministry is “caring, not curing”. The two of you decide where you will meet, when you will meet, how often you will meet and when your BeFriender relationship will end.

Talking things over with friends and family during difficult times is often very helpful. Sometimes good additional support is found in talking with someone who is not a personal friend or family member.

Those in the BeFriender ministry have had over twenty hours of training and meet monthly for on-going education. If you are considering taking advantage of this ministry, contact any of our clergy at church, Carol Coleman at [cscoleman@comcast.net](mailto:cscoleman@comcast.net) (206-365-4663) or [Befrienders@UCUCC.org](mailto:Befrienders@UCUCC.org) Contact: Janis Peterson, 206-283-8318 or [janiswes8@msn.com](mailto:janiswes8@msn.com).

*(Children's Ministry, continued from page 4)*

## Food Packing

After worship on March 13 come pack grocery bags for the Emergency Feeding Program in the 1st floor hallway at church. This is an easy way to help others; people of all ages and abilities are encouraged to come! The activity lasts about 30 minutes and is coordinated by Diane and Steve Adam, [sfdadam@comcast.net](mailto:sfdadam@comcast.net).

## You Are Invited to Teach Sunday School

Live into our covenant "to encourage each other in the growth of our minds and spirits" and become a Sunday school teacher or assistant. **We have a particular need for preschool teachers this summer and teachers this fall in all**



**grade levels.** Please contact Rebecca Schmidt at [rschmidt@ucucc.org](mailto:rschmidt@ucucc.org), 206-524-2322 for more information.

## Children's Ministry Board

We are recruiting new participants for our Children's Ministry board that oversees our Sunday school program for children (birth through 5th grade), as well as faith formation and community building activities for children and families. Please consider coming to our next meeting on March 7 or April 4 from 7-9pm at church to see what we are all about. Please contact Rebecca Schmidt for more information, [rschmidt@ucucc.org](mailto:rschmidt@ucucc.org).

## Save these dates:

March 5: Family Pizza Night/Seabeck Theme, 5-7pm.

March 12: Moving Mountains Youth Fundraiser Dinner.

March 26: Family Pizza Night and Easter Egg Dyeing

March 27: Easter Sunday, Services at 9 and 11am, Egg Hunt Between Services

April 23: Lamb Day, Pastor Catherine's Farm, Whidbey Island, 10:00 a.m.

## Seabeck All-Church Summer Camp

Please plan your vacation to attend our UCUCU Seabeck All-Church Summer Camp, July 10-15, 2016. Subsidies for children's camp fees and need-based scholarships for all ages are available! Seabeck is an all-inclusive vacation where friendships are made that last a lifetime. Rebecca Schmidt is coordinating the morning program for preschool and elementary children; kids will enjoy making friends while engaging in fun lessons with hands-on indoor and outdoor activities with a "Creation in Color" theme, including special music with acclaimed musician Rawn Harbor! We hope to see you and your children there. Contact Rebecca with questions, [rschmidt@ucucc.org](mailto:rschmidt@ucucc.org). **Our family-friendly, all-inclusive camp fills quickly, so please sign up soon to secure your spot!**

## Summer Family Camping Trip

We have reserved campsites at Camp Casey Campground on beautiful Whidbey Island for our annual family tent camping trip on Friday, August 12 through Sunday, August 14. All families with children and youth are invited to attend! Our campsites fill fast so please contact Rebecca soon if your family wants to come. The cost is expected to be about \$50.00 for a campsite for two nights and financial assistance is available. Camping as a group is great because we have fun, deepen friendships and help each other out. Please contact Rebecca Schmidt to RSVP and for more information, [rschmidt@ucucc.org](mailto:rschmidt@ucucc.org).



# *Beyond Resistance* – Let's all read this book!

With inspiration from Pastor Peter Ilgenfritz, we have chosen the book *Beyond Resistance: The Institutional Church Meets the Postmodern World* to read together as part of our 125th Anniversary. The book is by John Dorhauer, the new UCC General Minister and President.

**Free copies will be available for you** to pick up in the narthex starting **March 6**. Voluntary donations are welcome. Donations will be used to buy additional books to share.

It is a relatively short book (just 158 pages), and deals with the future of the Christian church. With the provocative opening sentence, "Let's be honest... churches are dying," Dorhauer opens a clear-eyed, somber, yet hopeful analysis of the declining state of mainline Christian churches today, why they are at this point and how "church" is changing. If you were in worship on Valentine's Day, you may recall Peter describing our church as a "2.0 church." Let Dornhauer's book enlighten you of the good news/bad news within that description.

There will be several opportunities to share your thoughts on this thought-provoking book, including a discussion with Rev. Dorhauer himself, who will join us for a forum on the topic after worship on April 17. There will also be an opportunity to discuss the book through an on-line "book group" blog. For details on the book and the events surrounding it, go to the 125th Anniversary website at [UniversityCongregational125.org](http://UniversityCongregational125.org).



**Palm Sunday—Celebrate our official birthday in worship, and be in the “family picture”**

The date of our incorporation as a church was March 24, 1891. We will celebrate this “birthday” in worship on Palm Sunday, March 24. Part of this celebration will be the taking of a photograph of our entire congregation, which will then become the cover of our new photo directory. This will be a fun, and surprisingly quick process. Please join us.

## **Make a Difference**

As a part of our 125th Anniversary celebrating our church home, we are also looking at ways we can make a difference for homeless individuals and families in Seattle. Here are three ways to get involved in the month of March:

- Attend the March 20 forum on homelessness that is part of the Spiritual Activism series described elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Attend the UCHA Annual Dinner on March 19. More information is available elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Attend the March meeting of the Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness on Wednesday, March 16, 12-1:30 in our chapel.

## **Plan now for the Old Fashioned All-Church Potluck on May 14**

We will conclude our 125th Anniversary Celebration with an All-Church Potluck in Ostrander Hall. Plan now to enjoy this opportunity for fun and fellowship. Plus, you can reprise a favorite old-time casserole — green beans with mushroom soup topped with canned onion rings, anyone? Please put this on your calendar now so you won't let it slip by.

*(Dorhauer, continued from page 15)*

themes of a worship style less committed to ritual and form than to a sacred presence and substance." "I see the UCC becoming an increasingly safe harbor for those whose voices are being lost in their faith traditions and for those without faith," Remole said. "This is what excites me — that we can become catalysts, and partner with John's vision in a world where God's voice is still speaking."

## **Save the Date:**

**April 17 after Worship, John Dorhauer will visit UCUC. Stay tuned for more information about meeting our newly Installed General Minister!**



### **2 Corinthians 8:13-15 New International Version (NIV)**

*<sup>13</sup> Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. <sup>14</sup> At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, <sup>15</sup> as it is written: "The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little."*

One Great Hour of Sharing® is the Lenten Offering that supports disaster, refugee, and development actions. Each year, the American Baptist Church, AME Zion, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Church of the Brethren, Church World Service, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church (USA) and we, the United Church of Christ, take a special offering that supports One Great Hour of Sharing. Please give generously to this year's One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

Just a few of the things that have been accomplished by the United Church of Christ with One Great Hour of Sharing funding:

- UCC helped repair flood-damaged homes in West Virginia and restore the small bridges that are residents' lifeline.
- Helped Flint, Michigan residents by giving them money to resolve their water system issues, rather than bottled water, which creates its own set of problems.
- Requested volunteers to repair flooded homes in South Carolina.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received on Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016. Please use envelopes provided in the pew pockets, making checks out to UCUC and noting One Great Hour of Sharing or special offering on the memo line.

# News and Events in the Broader Church

## John C. Dorhauer Installation as General Minister of UCC

January 22, 2016 Written by Connie Larkeman  
Excerpted from article on [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org).

One weekend, three cities. The Rev. John C. Dorhauer will be formally installed as the ninth general minister and president of the United Church of Christ in April, in a weekend of worship services in New York, Chicago and Seattle. The three-day installation, April 15, 16 and 17, underscores Dorhauer's pledge as the leader of the denomination to forge a greater connection between the United Church of Christ national offices and the local churches. "The whole of the United Church of Christ is engaged in mission together; and the work of the national setting belongs to us all," said Dorhauer. "We are literally going coast to coast with this as a way of giving testimony to that shared mission."

Riverside Church in Manhattan, New York City, Trinity United Church of Christ on Chicago's South Side, and Plymouth Church United Church of Christ in Downtown Seattle will be the host congregations on April 15, 16 & 17. Each of the churches is firmly rooted in the UCC national mission of social justice, civil rights and national activism.

"The style of worship is going to reflect our commitment to changing times," said Dorhauer. "Instead of one preacher, there will be nine: three locations, three preachers—all in short, digestible bites, rather than each delivering a full meal."

Participants in the three services will include UCC Board officers and UCC national officers, who will be engaged in worship with members of our local congregations. Each of the participants, with the exception of Dorhauer, will be involved in one service. The installation celebration opens with the service in New York, will continue in Chicago, and close with communion in Seattle.

The Rev. Brigitta Remole, senior minister of Plymouth Church, said she is "thrilled Rev. Dorhauer accepted the invitation to be installed at Plymouth. John is both a mystic and social activist. I look forward to his leadership as we lean into how we may all be one. What does it mean today that all can be one, and how can we the UCC live that out? Extravagant welcome, a core UCC value, means something different now."

"I don't see this as simply a means of affecting my Installation into the office to which I have been called and elected," said Dorhauer. "I see this as a way of giving voice and visibility to the narrative themes that will call us together into mission: themes of collaboration and interdependence; themes of shared mission across all boundaries; themes of come one, come all; themes of a national setting rooted in and connected to the full width and breadth of this remarkable denomination; themes of access to and presence with leaders from all settings of the church;

## EASTER FLOWERS 2016

Honor a friend or loved one, remember those who hold a special place in your heart, or commemorate a meaningful event by donating to the 2016 Easter Flower fund. You are encouraged to take your plant(s) home after Easter service. Orders need to be received by the church office by **Monday, March 21, 2016**.

Please PRINT name(s) ~ **thank you!**

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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## Worship and Preaching Calendar—Sunday worship service—10 am Easter Sunday Services—9am & 11am

### Worship in Lent

Our Lent Focus, "Where God is Found: Emptiness" continues this month as we explore the element of emptiness. Each week we will use Philippians 2:5-11 paired with the lectionary readings below.

#### February 28

Luke 13:1-9  
Catherine Foote, Preaching

#### March 6

Peter Ilgenfritz, Preaching  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b - 32  
Communion Sunday, Seabeck Sunday

#### March 13

Amy Roon, Preaching  
John 12:1-8  
Special Music Today honoring International Women's Day (March 8)

#### March 20—Palm Sunday

Catherine Foote, Preaching  
Luke 19:28-40

Today we celebrate our 125th Anniversary!

After church we will have an all-church photo taken for the cover of our new picture directory. Please plan to join in!

#### March 27—Easter Sunday Worship at 9am and 11am

Peter Ilgenfritz, Preaching  
Luke 24:1-12