

CHURCH AND HOME

UNIVERSITY CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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2019 Pledge Campaign Coming Soon

Greetings from your 2019 Stewardship Pledge Campaign Committee!

Our annual pledge campaign is starting soon. It will coincide with our Fall worship series, during which we will be reflecting together about our vision of the promised land and our legacy.

What is God calling us to do?

How do we live our passion?

We can ask these questions as individuals, through the daily work of the Church and as a light in the wider community.

Pledging to the Church is one of the ways that we can answer God's call. Our pledge campaign will try to highlight the work of the five ministries that our pledges make possible, and the many ways that our church embraces and promotes:

- ◆ Love and Justice
- ◆ Christian Education
- ◆ Calling and Engagement
- ◆ Stewardship and Finance
- ◆ Worship and Music

We look forward to reflecting with you, and to renewing our commitment to God's call and to our Church.

Please keep in mind the following dates:

- ◇ **September 30, 2018:** Launch Day for the 2019 Stewardship Pledge Campaign!
- ◇ **October 21, 2018:** Good Works Bazaar - 11:30 am in Ostrander Hall. (*see page 10*)
- ◇ **October 28, 2018:** Pledge Dedication Sunday

~ Your 2019 Stewardship Pledge Campaign Committee
Allison Hastings, Anna Van Pelt, Miranda Meyer,
Rachel Teigen, Sven Peterson, Virginia Felton

September Events Calendar

Monday, September 3

Building closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 4

6:15 Men's Supper

Blessing of Backpacks Sunday, September 9

11:30 Caregiver Support Group

11:30 Sacred Earth Matters meeting

11:30 Inquirers Lunch

Tuesday, September 11

5:30 TLS hosts PSR class: Thinking Theologically

Friday, September 14

Lecture Series: conversation with Glennon Doyle

Homecoming Sunday, September 16

11:30 Homecoming block party on 16th Ave

Tuesday, September 18

5:30 TLS hosts PSR class: Thinking Theologically

Saturday, September 22

9:00 Leadership Retreat

Sunday, September 23

8:45 Fellowship Breakfast resumes

Monday, September 24

5:00 TLS hosts PSR class: reading the Bible for Liberation

6:00 All Women Extraordinary dinner

Friday, September 28

7:00 Basic Peace Circle workshop

Saturday, September 29

9:30 Basic Peace Circle workshop

Noisy Coin Sunday, September 30

1:00 Sanctuary: Bystander Intervention Training

September Special Offering: Our Childcare Programs

Your September Special Offering supports the UCUC Child Care Programs: **Trettin Drop In Preschool** and the **Child Learning and Care Center**. Both programs provide high quality child care that is state licensed, nurturing and affordable.

This month is an exciting transition time!

Trettin is transitioning their program from the basement to the north wing of the church by Child Learning and Care Center. With this exciting move comes:

New classrooms, new learning materials, new equipment!

The move allows both programs to serve more children, especially toddlers, and also makes it easier for the programs to share resources.



Church support enables Trettin and the Child Learning and Care Center to provide tuition scholarships to families in need.

This past year, the UCUC Child Care Programs provided low income families a total of \$58,000 in scholarships. Your special offering supports this fund, opening up the opportunity of high-quality child care to families who would not otherwise be able to afford it.



Sep 30, Noisy Coins Sunday

Every month with a fifth Sunday, we invite those who attend the service to bring all their loose change to add to the collection plate. On September 30, all coins collected will support scholarships to our childcare programs.

South End Action Team Update

~ Wayne Wilson, SEAT Chair and David Anderson, Church Administrator

The South End Task Force continues to explore options for the use of our space in the 1st floor south wing, vacant when Trettin Drop-In Preschool moves up to the North wing and in a more secure area for the kids.

We had had serious conversations with two nonprofits earlier this year, and both had to pull out due to their own internal changes. We put the word out again with a plan to review applications in early August, only to discover that we had no applicants.

We have since had conversations with two nonprofits who might be interested.

In the meantime we're proceeding with some renovations to make the space more accessible and workable.

We will review our criteria and parameters for learnings and possible changes. We continue to look for a good fit, and are open to what is yet to unfold.

We are entertaining additional inquiries as they come in. Interested parties may contact David Anderson (danderson@universityucc.org) or Wayne Wilson (revww@aol.com) for more information.

Job announcements

Welcome our new Facilities Manager

~ David Anderson, Church Administrator

Beginning in August, Berhan Kifle took over as our Facilities Manager — overlapping with Robert Moore for a few weeks until Robert's retirement.

Berhan comes with a background in facilities management, including several years with Catholic Community Services as Building Operations Supervisor, and then promoted there to Facilities Manager II. He has other experience as a building operations lead and operations supervisor. Among other things, he brings twelve years of mechanical technician experience.

In addition, Berhan comes with a heart for ministry and commitment to collaboration and teamwork. The search committee has found in him a warm and gracious presence, and with skills and abilities, and an appreciation to help with the important aspects of our ministry that the building makes possible.

Berhan and Robert worked together over several weeks as Robert hands on the good work and systems he has in place.

Please join me in welcoming Berhan.

Job opportunity:

Early-childhood Caregiver

Position Purpose: Create a Christian environment that encourages the faith development of the youngest members of our faith family. Provide quality care for children in a welcoming church community. Support parents in their own Christian growth and nurture of their young children

Required Qualifications: High school graduation or equivalent; at least two years prior experience working with young children; pass criminal background check.

Terms of employment: Primarily on Sunday mornings year-round. Rate \$15/hour. Hours: at minimum 1.5 hours on Sundays

Job responsibilities: Provide a quality experience on Sunday mornings for young children in a Sunday school classroom environment, and provide childcare for church events. Support volunteer caregivers, and supervise youth assistants. Set-up and clean-up Sunday school classrooms. Maintain weekly communication with Children's Ministry Director on issues as they arise, ideas for improvement. Work within the letter and spirit of our Safe Child Policy. Assist in the overall Children's Ministry Program as needed.

Contact: Send a resume, and letter of interest to Children's Ministry Director Betsy Herring, bherring@universityucc.org, 206-524-2322 x3302

Be a Children's Ministry Sunday School Teacher

Join our volunteer teaching crew. Adults and high school youth are warmly invited to be a part of this ministry. Each hour-long class needs co-teachers.

You'll be provided with everything you need beforehand to have a blast with the kids.

Summer Sunday School is laid-back, nourishing work.

Contact Betsy Herring - bherring@universityucc.org, 206-524-2322 ext 3302 for the link to *Sign Up Genius*.

Volunteer Help Needed for UCEF

The United Churches Emergency Fund (UCEF) provides compassionate listening, focused referrals, and financial assistance to prevent homelessness out of our first floor on NE 45th St.

We need members on our board of directors to visualize our future. The board meets at 3:00, the third Thursday of every second month. Next meeting is September 20.

We need help with our web page -- this can be done from home.

We need people who like working with those in need two or more mornings a month: Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, 10:30 — 12:15.

Contact Jo Gustafson, executive director, at 206-524-7885 or director@uchurchesemergencyfund.org.

Along the Way

“Bloom Where You’re Planted”

David Anderson

In July, my spouse Tim and I had a couple of weeks of vacation in Montana. It was wonderful to have time with friends and family, to read and explore the area, and to catch up with each other after a few intense but good post-Sabbatical months.

One of the unexpected treats was a tour of the summer part of a cattle ranch. This ranch has acreage in the Jefferson River valley, and the cabin we rented was on a corner of that part of the ranch. They also have summer acreage up in the Centennial Valley, at 6700 feet with only dirt roads (and poor cell phone service). It’s a remote 50-mile-long valley with incredible views, lakes, and a lovely river meandering through. They offer tours of the summer ranch and we took them up on it. It was an amazing day of hearing from and traveling with Andrew, the Ranch Manager, a gentle, salt-of-the-earth cowboy, as well as a professional manager of a huge operation. It was fascinating to hear from him of his love of the land, respect and care for the cattle, commitment to sustainable practices, and his own grounding on the earth. His work was not a job but a way of life. And he was committed to making the world and all he encountered better for his presence.

Andrew talked about some ways his commitments run a little counter to the normal attitude of the neighboring cattle ranchers, yet how much he values them as neighbors. He mentioned in passing sacrifices he, his family, and his ranch make from time to time in order to do the right thing, and how that’s just part of the big picture.

It reminds me that we all have an opportunity, a call, to live with grace and integrity. To care for each other and those we touch. To show God’s love to humans and other creatures, and the plants and land. To see the ways we are all part of Creation and that Creation is a part of whatever we do. Our response can be gentle rather than dominant. It doesn’t happen just in church, or just in the mountains. It can happen with connections and relationships anywhere. Grounding and grace can undergird and inspire.

I left our time in Montana with deep gratitude for the time and for Andrew. He reminds me that God’s love and grace exist wherever we might find ourselves. I’m planning to hold onto that reassurance and inspiration. God is good indeed.

To Practice Encouragement

~ Amy Roon

In the United Church of Christ, and here at University Congregational, we share a passion for sharing the love of Christ and engaging in the creation of justice, love in action. Our calls to action may differ in approach or topic, but we all need spiritual sustenance to engage this passion. Worship is one of the ways we set aside time to connect with God and one another; to recharge and reframe so that the work does not consume us.

This year, each worship series will incorporate and invite you to a spiritual practice to do during the service and throughout the week.

In the Fall, we hope you will take an opportunity to practice an act of encouragement for one another. *What would it be like if we each took a deliberate moment each day to encourage someone? What will it be like to be a part of a congregation engaged in this practice?*

Look for cards and notes placed in the Turner Commons, incorporated into the bulletin, and available in the office. Fill one out and pass on the spirit! If you need support with mailing them or getting them to someone, just drop them off in the office.

Other acts of encouragement might include making a meal for someone, helping or teaching our children, helping with breakfast clean up.

However you participate in the life our congregation, try naming your work as a way to encourage one another to live a life of faith.

Future of Superfluity secured.

We are delighted to announce that Jan Von Lehe, Mary Sue Galvin and Chris Cady have agreed to carry on the leadership of Superfluity starting in 2020.

During the coming year, and Superfluity 2019, Jan and Mary Sue will be shadowing Mary Ellen Smith and Kathy Turner to learn all the various tasks that they do in order to figure out how they are going to divide it up those tasks. Chris will be working with Nancy Hannah to learn the ropes of being the Treasurer.

Needless to say, Kathy, Nancy and Mary Ellen are absolutely thrilled that they have accepted the leadership of Superfluity and will do everything they can to make it an easy transition for them. They will have a fabulous group of department chairpersons who are more than willing to help them out. We all love the community spirit that is present during the “Season of Superfluity” so the transition should go well for them.

Support for the UCUCCLiturgical Arts Endowment

Youth perspective from Anika Segall:

When you walk into our church, there's that "love you" feel. People invest their ideas and time into making the worship environment what it is, including art. Art and movement inspire people and bring us together as a congregation. It's fun to participate in worship because I get to meet people from different age groups.

I see God as a creative presence. We are all God's people no matter where we're from. We come together in worship and we can dance or clap any time. We can say, "I have an idea for a sermon" and the pastors are interested in what's in your life that we could all reflect on. Besides what's in the Bible, we can have our own ideas, looking at how God is affecting us in the world right now and how God is inspiring us.

From Toni Higgs:

The liturgical arts help me to get out of my head and allow me to experience God, Scripture and community in different ways. I look forward to times when the art in the sanctuary changes as the liturgical seasons change. I love the current banners with the words about the mission of our denomination; they remind me why I'm here. The art in church represents hope and creates beauty at a time when we are working on tough issues like racial justice.

Participating a few months ago in the Suitcase Dance in worship provided me with a new way to be a member. Authentic stuff came up for me during that process that I didn't expect. People surprised me by coming up to me afterwards and commenting on what I said. The arts and creativity in our worship makes our church unique.

Our goal is to raise \$100,000 by the end of this year, which will provide \$5000 in spendable earnings per year to support visual, kinesthetic, written and spoken word arts at UCUCCL. We are most grateful for the \$73,220 in gifts and pledges we have received to date. If you appreciate our liturgical art, you can make a pledge over a two-year period or contribute now with a check payable to UCUCCL marked "**Liturgical Arts Endowment**." For further information or to suggest ideas for future liturgical arts projects, please speak to one of us or email liturgicalarts@ucucc.org.

~ Beth Amsbary, Kris Garratt, Debra Jarvis, Betty Spieth-Croll, Carolyn Stark, Lori Vanderbilt and Peter Ilgenfritz

For Those Who Cannot Attend Church (And those who can)

~ Carol Scott-Kassner, commissioned minister of UCUCCL to ministries of spiritual direction and of aging

I often play with the concepts of doing and being and apply them to my life.

How much am I *doing* and for what reasons?

How am I balancing that with simply "being?"

In my mid-70s, I'm more and more attracted to the idea of "being present" to whatever I do.

Here are some words to the wise about ways that we can "be".

Be strong, but not rude.

Be kind, but not weak.

Be humble, but not timid.

Be proud, but not arrogant.

Don't stress over things you can't control.

Ask for what you want, and be prepared to get it.

Impress people with your soul, not the things you have.

Have patience. All things are difficult before they become easy.

Never forget the people who caught you while you were falling.

Breathe and allow things to pass.

Be positive.

You are not too old, and it's not too late.

By doing what you love, you inspire and awaken the hearts of others.

Thanks to Ruth Montgomery for these ideas.



National Monuments Update

~ Anne Dickerson

The Antiquities Act (1906) gives presidents the authority to designate or expand national monuments on existing federal lands. Today 200 monuments protect woodlands, deserts, marine oases, Native American cultural sites, etc. Congress alone has the authority to abolish national monuments.

President Trump directed Interior Secretary Zinke in 2017 to review the boundaries of 40 national monuments established by previous presidents. **Members of our congregation joined Sacred Earth Matters in urging Congress to uphold the Antiquities Act** and prevent President Trump from abolishing or shrinking the boundaries of existing national monuments.

Congress has taken no official action.

Despite the Antiquities Act, the president reduced the size of Bears Ears (Utah) Monument by 85% and divided it into two units. He also issued a proclamation to reduce Grand Staircase-Escalante (Utah) Monument from 1.9 million to 1 million acres (almost 50%) and divide it into three units.

The president's action endangers most of the 100,000 Native American architectural sites at Bears Ears. It also opens at both monuments new mineral and oil and gas leasing opportunities in protected lands, eases drilling regulations, and rolls back habitat protections for endangered species. The original monument designation proclamations for both Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante included language that maintained public access for activities ranging from climbing to herb gathering. The revised designations leave this access up in the air.

The Antiquities Act had not been litigated previously. But Earthjustice and others have filed lawsuits to restore the boundaries at Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante. Secretary Zinke urged the president to shrink the Cascade-Siskiyou (Oregon) and Gold Butte (Nevada) monuments, too. But he has not done so thus far.

Sacred Earth will continue to monitor any attempts to abolish/reduce the boundaries of our national monuments.

The Earth is the Lords – not ours to wreck

Coal Mine in King County Gets Federal Gov't Approval

~ Lon Dickerson

The U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation & Enforcement (OSMRE) issued permits in April for Henry No.1 Coal Mine in Black Diamond. The mine will likely re-open by mid-2019. Pacific Coast Coal Company extracted 3 million tons of coal from 1986 to 1999 when operations ceased. 462,000 tons will be extracted from the remaining open pits over 6 years.

Coal will be transported by truck via Hwy 169 and I-405 to Ash Grove Cement in West Seattle and by barge to 2 cement plants in BC. Ash Grove recently switched to cleaner natural gas, but readily available coal will be cheaper. Initiative 1631's proposed carbon fees could make the use (and thereby the mining) of coal in Washington uneconomical.

Governor Inslee and King County Executive Constantine vow to stop PCCC, but don't seem to have strategies for doing so. Nor does the state have the final word. Governor Dixie Lee Ray relinquished control over surface mining in Washington to the federal government in 1978.

The mine's grading permit from King County was issued in 1986 (renewed annually; multiple 5-year reviews). King County is updating stormwater components in the permit, and a 2019 review document should be ready by the end of 2018.

PCCC's 1986 Washington Department of Ecology permit has been routinely renewed or administratively extended every 5 years. Thus, crafting higher standards and permitting responsibilities may be difficult. Phosphorus in nearby Lake Sawyer will undoubtedly increase, for instance. But who can say whether it's because of the mine or 6,050 new houses being built in Black Diamond. DOE will publish by early 2019 its draft NPDES waste discharge permit. There will be a public hearing(s) and 60 days to submit comments.

Sacred Earth Matters submitted 338 signed letters in March opposing the mine's reopening to Jay Inslee (116 letters), Dow Constantine (110), and DOE (112). SEM will try to keep everyone up to date and help facilitate the comment process. *If* the final DOE permit has requirements which exceed those in the federal permit, OSMRE may choose to re-open its permitting process.

The Earth is the Lord's – not ours to wreck

The Lecture Series News

Aug 26, Volunteer Thank You & New Program Announcements!

All are welcome after worship for a cake reception to thank the Lecture Series Volunteers who make this program possible year after year. The Lecture Series is an all-volunteer program of UCUC that has brought nationally and internationally recognized speakers to the Seattle area and audience members from throughout the Pacific Northwest region and beyond since 2007. We couldn't do it without volunteers – thank you all!

The Lecture Series has earned its own reputation over the years and now speakers often reach out to us to come speak at UCUC. New and exciting changes to The Lecture Series are underway 2018/2019! Come hear more about how our new collaboration with Pacific School of Religion (PSR) will offer expanded learning opportunities at UCUC through PSR programming.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

One night: Sept 14 | Glennon Doyle:

Glennon Doyle is an author, activist, philanthropist, creator of the online community Momastery, and founder and president of Together Rising, a nonprofit for women and children in crisis. Some tickets may still be available.

Inquire at lectureseries@universityucc.org

Enroll in a PSR online certificate program starting in September:

Learn more and consider enrolling in one or a series of online classes offered through Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley CA, in two certificate programs: Theological Education for Leadership, and Gender, Sexuality & the Bible. Classes take place Tuesday or Monday evenings respectively and can be taken at your home or with a small group at UCUC. Learn more at www.universityucc.org/education/adult-education/

Bringing Down Rulers from Their Thrones:

Race, Resistance, and the Prophetic Imagination October 5-7

With Dr. Sharon Jacob, Assistant Professor, New Testament and Dr. Sharon Fennema, Assistant Professor of Christian Worship & Director of Worship Life at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley.

40 years since Dr. Walter Brueggemann's influential publication of the *Prophetic Imagination*, two professors will show how sacred scriptures, liturgies, and spiritual practices are strengthening contemporary communities of resistance and enlivening visions and actions for justice throughout the world.

Dr. Fennema holds a Doctor of Philosophy from the Graduate Theological Union, a Master of Arts in Religion, Yale Divinity School and Institute of Sacred Music and a Bachelor of Music from St. Olaf College.

Dr. Jacob completed her undergraduate education in her native Bangalore, India, and holds a Masters of Divinity from Lancaster Theological Seminary, a Masters of Sacred Theology from Yale Divinity School and a PhD from Drew University in Madison, NJ.

June 7-9, 2019 | ColumbaFest, Glasgow Scotland

We're looking at organizing a pilgrimage to Glasgow to participate in the annual ColumbaFest hosted by the Iona Community. ColumbaFest is a seasonal celebration of faith, culture, politics and creativity.

Interested in learning more?

Email us at lectureseries@universityucc.org.

Fall Spirit Workshops: Sacred Stories

What stories do you choose?

What tales guide your imagination and your action?

This Fall's Spirit Workshops gatherings will listen deeply into the stories that guide us: whether they come from science, earth, ancestors, or neighbors. We'll encourage each other to *LIVE* as if those stories matter.

For more information or to RSVP for these events, contact SpiritWorkshops@ucucc.org or 206-524-2322. Spirit Workshops are an outreach program of UCUC: gatherings with hands-on activities and meaningful conversations, where all beliefs are welcome.

Potluck Celebration of Fall

Sunday, September 16, 2 – 5:00pm

Join into meaty conversation and the exceptionally tasty cooking of the Spirit Workshop Adventurers. In a member's home.

Day of the Dead

Sunday, October 28, 2 -4pm

Learn about the practices of the Mexican fiesta, Die de los Muertos from Rene De Los Santos, and prepare to honor those who have passed on, but are still important in your life.

Stories Worth Choosing

Friday, November 2, 7 – 8:30pm

4 master storytellers share stories from life, about a moment when choosing their story made all the difference. Seattle novelist Stephanie Kallos (*Broken for You*) is our first confirmed story spinner. This public story concert is a great time to invite friends: inspiration to take part in the story of our civil society in the final days before the national election. .

Post-Election Vigil:

Wednesday, November 7, 7-9pm

No matter who wins or loses, let's take time to connect & share our fears, our hopes, and our support. Offered jointly with University Congregational.

Festivus Potluck:

Sunday, December 9, 2-5pm

Celebrate the seasons! So many reasons!

Longest Night:

Friday, December 21, 7pm

In a time of year when the culture is full of glitter, let's gather to acknowledge the darkness of the longest night and the griefs that may be present for many of us. Offered jointly with University Congregational.

September Events

Have questions about our church?

Sep 9, join us for lunch – and answers.

Inquirers Lunch, 11:30 – 1:30 in Ostrander Hall.

Enjoy a tasty, complimentary lunch of soup, salad, bread and dessert. Meet others who may be on a similar spiritual journey, and learn from long-term members and clergy about joining our church community . We'll explore topics from history to theology to membership. This is not just a lunch for newcomers. Even if you've been coming for years, please join us to learn more about our church and help welcome newcomers.

RSVP and let us know about any special needs (including childcare). Email Inquirers@ucucc.org or call 206-979-7539.

Sep 16, Homecoming block party

After worship, join us out on 16th Ave for an extravagant homecoming welcome.

There will be BBQ, pony rides, face-painting, games and even more fun.

Reconnect with your church family, meet some new people, or get to know us better.

The church will provide hamburgers & hotdogs, fruit, and beverages.

Please bring a picnic salad/side dish or cookies (if you are able). You can drop off your potluck dishes in the Ostrander Hall Kitchen before worship.

If you have any questions or would like to help, email Carol Coleman at parishcaresupport@ucucc.org or leave a voicemail at 206-524-2322.

Sept 22, Leadership retreat

9:00-4:30 in the Turner Lounge, lunch provided

This Fall, the church council is hosting a retreat for UCUC leaders to strengthen our roles as our church continues to step into the work of being an anti-racist congregation.

We are blessed that Diane Schmitz and Cynthia MacLeod, our UCUC consultants on our anti-racist work, will be leading the training. They have led trainings for lay members who led small work groups, our leadership staff, CE program staff at Seabeck, and our program and other staff as well. **This training is specifically focused on our roles as leaders and how we can lead in ways to express our faith in welcoming all as the body of Christ and what can enhance our welcome.**

If you have questions, contact Peter Ilgenfritz at pilgenfritz@universityucc.org. Thank you for inviting your teams to participate.

RSVP to Erin Lovejoy-Guron at communications@universityucc.org, or 206-524-2322, so we can know how many to expect.

Fellowship Breakfasts Every Sunday

8:45 in the Turner Lounge

Beginning Sept 23, join us for Sunday fellowship breakfasts in the church lounge from 8:45 - 9:45 am every Sunday through May 12. Drop in for nourishing food, creative activities, supervision for children, and the opportunity to connect with your church family.

Sep 29, Weaving Our Strengths:

8:00-3:15, Narrative of Hope

Mercer Island Presbyterian Church
3605 84th Ave SE Mercer Island 98040

This is the annual day-long conference of the Church Council of Greater Seattle. Registration, workshop details, and more are now available at www.thechurchcouncil.org/wos.

Workshop themes include organizing for church vitality; our call to advocacy; water in Scripture, our lives and world; standing with our Muslim neighbors; equity in daily life; racial justice; civility; environmental and housing justice; spirituality & justice “reset”; cultural humility; and discernment.

Peace Circle Workshops

With the goal of supporting discussions about race, and other challenging conversations within our congregation (and beyond), we are offering Peace Circle workshops: a process that enables us to listen deeply to each other, and reach inside ourselves to speak into that listening.

Introductory workshop:

♦ **Fri., Sept. 28, 7 – 9 & Sat., Sept. 29, 9:30 – 4:30.**

RSVP to Ginger Warfield: vwarfield@mac.com, or 206-525-0175.

Training for future Circle Keepers:

(previous Peace Circle training is required)

♦ **Sat., Nov. 3 and 10, 9:30 – 5:30**

RSVP to Ginger or Aileen Pruiksma
aileenspr-biz@yahoo.com

Suggested registration fee:

For the introductory workshop \$50 - \$75.

[To cover the entire cost, we would have to set a fee of \$125. We don't want financial reasons to stop anyone. Scholarships are freely available. However much you can comfortably pay will be welcome and well used.]

Sep 30, Bystander Intervention Training

~ Cassie Emanuel, Sanctuary Action Team

Have you ever wondered how you'd intervene if you saw someone being harassed in public because of skin color, religious identity or immigration status?

Sunday, September 30, from 1:00-3:30 in the Turner Lounge, we will host a Bystander Intervention Training co-sponsored by our Sanctuary Action Team and the 8 other congregations in our U-District Sanctuary Hub.

Bystanders can speak up when they witness threatening behavior and thereby foster a community of loving kindness. This training will teach you how to engage in situations of public harassment and violence without escalating the danger. It will provide hands-on strategies for intervening when potentially harmful situations are developing.

Goals for this training:

- Increase your motivation to help
- Raise awareness of helpful behaviors
- Develop skills and confidence to respond when you see someone being mistreated
- Ensure the safety and well-being of self and others.

Space is limited to the first 30. Registration is required. Email your name to bystanderucucc@gmail.com

Stay up-to-date on our Children & Youth events

...by subscribing to Betsy or Margaret's weekly email. Go to universityucc.org, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "*subscribe to email newsletters*" Fill out the form with the information your family wants, and you will receive weekly reminders of all the events on the horizon.

Sunday, Sep 16: Homecoming Sunday

Directly following worship please plan to attend our Homecoming Sunday block party! We will be closing down part of 16th Ave! There will be BBQ, ponies and other fun activities for the whole family!

School Supply Drive

Drive is on now until September 16

Some things we are particularly looking for are backpacks and zipper binders. Otherwise, any school supplies are welcome! For younger kids: glue sticks, colored pencils, pencil box, pencils, crayons, rulers, erasers, notebooks, folders, etc. For older youth you might think about donating flash drives, scientific calculators, graph paper, pens, dividers and binders.

For a full list, email Margaret, mswanson@universityucc.org, and she can give you more ideas. The donation box is located in the Narthex of the Turner Commons.

Thank you in advance for your donations!

Children's Ministry news

Contact Director of Children's Ministry Betsy Herring for more information, childrensministry@ucucc.org, 206-524-2322.

Many dates are set for next year

- ♦ **September 9:** Start of 2018/19 Preschool and Elementary Sunday School
- ♦ **September 16:** Homecoming Sunday
- ♦ **October 13:** Apple Day, Pastor Catherine's Farm
- ♦ **November 25:** Advent Breakfast
- ♦ **December 2:** Advent Workshop

Youth Ministry news

Contact Director of Youth Ministry Margaret Swanson for information, mswanson@ucucc.org or (206)524-2322.

Sunday, Sep 9:

9am Youth Group Starts!

Youth Group begins again for youth in grades 6 - 12. It will be so wonderful to gather again together! The first few Sundays the Youth Group will meet all together in the Pilgrim Room. All are welcome! *This is also the deadline to sign up for the all youth retreat – see details below.

10am: Worship & Blessing of the Backpacks

Students and Teachers returning to school - bring your backpack to worship, and we will have a special time in worship where we will bless you and your backpacks for the school year ahead.

Wednesday, September 19:

Junior & Senior Small Group

7pm – 8:30pm, Pilgrim Room

We begin our monthly small group gathering for our High School Juniors and Seniors! Trent and Margaret are looking forward to connecting with you and meeting each month to share about the journeys of this pivotal time in high school.

September 21-23: All Youth Retreat

4:30pm Friday – 12pm Sunday

NEW this fall, we are all (6th through 12th grade) heading out to our UCC camp, Pilgrim Firs, for an ALL-YOUTH RETREAT! We will be having time for fellowship, games, activities and discussions. We will spend a little time planning and dreaming for the year too! We will have times all together, and times where we are breaking into our separate HS and MS groups! It's going to be a great event! Deadline to register is Sunday, September 9.

To Register: <http://bit.ly/AllYouthRetreat18>

Future Events

Join Us At the Annual Senior Retreat October 1-2, 2018

Members and friends of UCUC are invited to attend our senior retreat at the beautiful Rainbow Lodge near North Bend. We suggest that you be at least 55 to attend, meaning you probably qualify for many “senior discounts”. You don't have to be a member of AARP — just someone who enjoys getting to know others and sharing conversations, stories, songs, and laughter. We begin Monday morning at 10:00 and recommend people arrive by 9:00 am or soon thereafter to unload cars and begin to connect informally with others.

**Our theme this year is:
Stories of Love, Loss, and Laughter.**

On Monday, our wonderful Terry Moore, who is an actor/director/cellist among other things, will help us understand what constitutes a good story, and then give us ideas for how to tell a good story.

On Tuesday, Catherine will lead us in exploring stories from the Bible related to our theme and we will finish with some storytelling followed by worship and lunch.

The cost for a shared room plus meals is \$125. A single room is \$140. We encourage people to share a room if possible.

You should receive a registration form in the mail in late July. You can send it in along with a minimum payment of \$35.00, or you can register in person in the Narthex on Sunday's beginning on September 2. Final payment is due at the time of the retreat.

Details about lodging, location, and what to bring will be sent to those who register.

We hope to see you there!!

Be a part of Habitat for Humanity

Interested in going to Guatemala on a Habitat for Humanity work project **February 16 - 24, 2019**?

We are now in the process of recruiting members of a work team to return to San Lucas Toliman on Lake Atitlan to provide improved living conditions for deserving families. No special skills required, just a desire to help and to travel.

Contact Marcia McCracken at 206-910-1919 or marciamcc@comcast.net to learn more about it.

Save the Date for Good Works Bazaar

There are so many groups around UCUC who are doing amazing things - it's hard to keep up with it all!

- ◆ Would you like to show others what your group has been up to?
- ◆ Would you like to find out what others are planning?
- ◆ Would you like to see all the ways we are “being the church” and perhaps get involved?

On Sunday, October 21 after church, Ostrander Hall will be filled with people for our second annual Good Works Bazaar — the place to catch up with people, activities, ministries, and opportunities to learn about our church. Please plan to join the fun!

Actions Teams, Committees, Ministries:

if you want to connect with fresh volunteers, this is the best time to introduce your group to new people.

Questions? Contact vickifarmer@hotmail.com.

October Men's Weekend

The weekend of October 19-21, join us at the annual UCUC Men's Weekend for an exploration of 5th Century Celtic Christianity, and its relevance for today's world.

The retreat, held at the South Lodge on the shore of Lake Flora of the Pilgrim Firs Conference Center, also provides a wonderful chance for hiking, reading, meditating, napping, and just hanging out with others.

Save the date and be a part of another great gathering at the lake. Talk to Earl Hamilton (earlwhamilton@gmail.com), Jack Sukalac (jack@allaboutdown.com), or Grant Fjermedal (grant@nwlink.com) for more information.

Iona in 2020

We are in the very early planning stages for a trip to Iona in 2020 - sometime between May and September. If you have any interest in this adventure, please email Cathy Gunstone at cgunstone@gmail.com.

Worship and Preaching Calendar—Sunday worship service—10 am

Engaging Passion: In the United Church of Christ, and here at University Congregational, we share a passion for sharing the love of Christ and engaging in the creation of justice, love in action. Our calls to action may differ in approach or topic, but we all need spiritual sustenance to engage this passion. Worship is one of the ways we set aside time to connect with God and one another; to recharge and reframe so that the work does not consume us. We hope that this Fall, in the stories of scripture and the spiritual practices introduced in worship, you find good, healthy spiritual nourishment; inspiration for your calling.

September 2, 2018

Be Our Church: living bread

preaching: Catherine Foote

scripture: John 6:51-58

Blessing of the Backpacks, September 9, 2018

Be Our Church: be opened

preaching: Peter Ilgenfritz

scripture: Mark 7:24-37

Homecoming Sunday, September 16, 2018

Engaging Passion: call of Abraham

preaching: Amy Roon

scripture: Genesis 12:1-9

Joining Sunday, September 23, 2018

Engaging Passion: Joseph in prison

preaching: Catherine Foote

scripture: Genesis 39:1-23

September 30, 2018

Engaging Passion: rescue at the sea

preaching: Amy Roon

scripture: Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29