

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT.)

### Gathering Ground Event: *Whiteness Is Not an Ancestor* book study and reflection group

Sunday, October 10, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

How do we reckon with a family history of racism? Using a lens of inherited trauma, this collection of personal essays offers a path to dismantle whiteness, face grief, and bring healing. Assistance available to loan or purchase the book. Online via Zoom, the link is in our weekly Thursday email.

### Ally Building with Indigenous People workshop

Saturday, October 23, 9:30 am

This workshop will be led by teachers from the Seattle based, Na'ah Illahee Fund, an Indigenous woman-led nonprofit. The focus of the workshop is on ally building with Indigenous communities and why allyship is important for each one of us, no matter where we live, work or our heritage. Registration will be open soon, so stay tuned! A Zoom link will be sent a few days before the workshop for those registered. Those collaborating with the trainers from Na 'ah Illahee to plan the workshop include members of the UCUCR Racial Justice Action team: Gail Crouch, Jessie McAbee, Ginger Warfield and Patti Brandt. The registration link can be found in our weekly Thursday email.

## ORDINARY TIME

We Are: Christ's Representatives

September 26, 2021 — 10:00 a.m.



UNIVERSITY CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



walking together on God's transformative  
adventure, following the path of love and  
justice as revealed to us by Jesus.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

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**Bearing the Light:** The Spieth Family

**Music Director:** Benjamin Rogers **Organist:** David Nichols

**Chancel Choir**

**Guest Musician:** Cristin Miller

**“Nothing More” musicians:** Eva Lieber, Elle Jerbi, Sophie Turner, Sydney Colescott, and Margaret Swanson, vocals;  
Bob Perkins, guitar

**Preacher:** Steve Jerbi

**Clergy:** Amy Roon and Catherine Foote

**Liturgist:** Kathy Williams

**Grace and peace to you from God who is Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.** Whether you join us this morning believing, seeking or doubting, we welcome you to worship with us. We pray that you will be met here by the living Christ.

**As an open and affirming congregation,** we celebrate our diversity in religious background, gender, sexual orientation, age, race and abilities.

**As Christians** we are shaped by the language of our tradition, including its foundation—the Bible. Some of us understand Christian language in literal and factual terms. Others understand it as a language filled with symbolism and metaphor. We all share a common passion for the more-than-literal meaning of the stories and teachings that guide us.

**The chancel flowers** are given in memory of Stephanie Donich from Tim Croll and their son, Jacob Donich-Croll.

**Please silence cell phones during worship, and thank you for staying masked inside the building**

**We encourage you to socially distance by family groups as much as possible.**



Our sanctuary has an induction loop system—use T mode.

4515 16th Ave NE. Seattle, Washington 98105-4201

## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **AWE (All Women Extraordinary) Dinner**

Monday, September 27, 6:00-7:00 pm

All women are invited to Zoom in for an informal hour of chatting and virtual dining. Every fourth Monday 6:00 - 7:00 pm. We plan to continue using Zoom, as we have expanded our group beyond the Seattle area. Please join us! Questions or mailing list requests, contact Christina Purdy at [pyrdina@yahoo.com](mailto:pyrdina@yahoo.com).

### **Beyoncé Mass Seattle is this Friday!**

Friday, September 24, 7:00 pm

Beyoncé Mass is a groundbreaking Christian worship service featuring Beyoncé's music that celebrates the spirituality of Black women. Created and curated by UCUCV Visiting Theologian Rev. Yolanda Norton, the mass comes to Seattle online, September 24 at 7:00 pm. All are invited! Be sure to log on Friday evening 6:45 pm for music, live chat and information leading into the 7:00 pm worship service. A reminder that, due to music licensing, the mass will not be recorded for future viewing. The only way to experience Beyoncé Mass Seattle is to attend this breakthrough worship service live online. Haven't registered for yet? Check our weekly Thursday email for the registration link.

In preparation for Beyoncé Mass Seattle, Rev. Norton presented four classes this summer. The recordings have been made available to all who are interested—the link to (re)view the classes are also in the weekly Thursday email.

### **Beyoncé Mass talk back**

Saturday September 25, 10:00 am, via Zoom

Exciting news!! We've added a Beyoncé Mass talk back this Saturday morning with Rev. Yolanda Norton, creator and curator of Beyoncé Mass, to unpack and understand the unique worship experience from Friday evening. Rev. Yolanda will share clips, insights into curation of the Seattle Mass, and more. We'll all have a chance to ask questions and share our reactions to a worship series, grounded in Womanist Theology and celebrating Black women through the music of Beyoncé. Can't make the mass on Friday? Join us anyway! It will be a great opportunity to get a good sense of what just happened here in Seattle. No registration necessary for the talk back. Just log on Saturday morning with the link in the weekly Thursday email.

# THE WEEK AHEAD

## Sunday, 26 September 2021

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM	Youth Group	Pilgrim room
9:30 AM to 11:45 AM	Children's Play Time	Playground
10:00 AM to 11:20 AM	WORSHIP	Sanctuary
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM	WORSHIP LIVESTREAM (premier)	online
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Bad Theology Kills: Final Discussion	

## Monday, 27 September 2021

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Engagement Committee	Zoom
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Stewardship/Finance Committee	Zoom 1
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM	AWE Dinner (All Women Extraordinary)	Zoom 2
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM	Seabeck Book Club	Zoom 3

## Tuesday, 28 September 2021

10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Bible Study	Zoom 2
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Childcare Board Meeting	Zoom 2

## Wednesday, 29 September 2021

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Afghan Support Initiative	Zoom 1
10:00 AM to 10:30 AM	Prayer Circle	Zoom 3
8:00 PM to 9:00 PM	Middle School Game Night	Online 2

## Thursday, 30 September 2021

1:30 PM to 2:30 PM	Sanctuary Study Group meeting	Zoom
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Emergence Team	Zoom 3
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM	Choir Zoom	Zoom

## Friday, 01 October 2021

9:30 AM to 11:00 AM	Racial Justice Steering Committee meeting	Zoom 3
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## Sunday, 03 October 2021

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM	Youth Group	Pilgrim room
9:30 AM to 11:45 AM	Children's Play Time	Playground
10:00 AM to 11:20 AM	WORSHIP	Sanctuary
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM	Vigil for Common Good	Offsite 1
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM	WORSHIP LIVESTREAM	online

# WE ARE: CHRIST'S REPRESENTATIVES WE GATHER

*\*please rise in body or spirit*

PRELUDE "Come, We Who Love God's Name" Robert Lowry  
*David Nichols*

WELCOME Steve Jerbi

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT Kathy Williams  
September Action Steps

Take a walking tour of seven UW Campus sites highlighting indigenous presence on campus through the perspective of an indigenous student.

Consider participating in Faith Action Network's sign-on statement about boarding schools. See Faith Action Network for more information.

Read the final chapter in *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* (2014) entitled "The Future of the United States," by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND CALL TO WORSHIP  
The Spieth Family

THRESHOLD MOMENT: RELEASE OF THE SHEEP Catherine Foote

ANTHEM "Flight" Craig Carnelia  
*Cristin Miller, vocals*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER  
Catherine Foote

*At the words "Hear us, O God," you are invited to respond, "Your mercy is great."*

*You're invited to write a prayer concern on the pink card in the pew rack. Place your card in the offering plate so it can be passed on to the Prayer Chain and the clergy. You are also invited to place prayers in the prayer wheel at the front of the sanctuary. Prayers placed in the prayer wheel will not be shared with the Prayer Chain or the clergy, and when the cylinder is full, they will be shredded and returned to the earth as compost.*

SONG "Nothing More" Eric Donnelly & Timothy Warran  
*Eva Lieber, Elle Jerbi, Sophie Turner, Sydney Colescott, and Margaret Swanson, vocals; Bob Perkins, guitar*

TIME OF RECONCILIATION AND FORGIVENESS Catherine Foote

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we are your children, part of your holy creation.  
Yet too often we do not honor you with our words and deeds.  
We try to be working toward your justice.  
Then we teach and act in the ways of white supremacy,  
colonization, and oppression, calling it church.  
Help us remember we are yours and that you have planted ways of  
love and wisdom within us.  
Put us on the path that brings harmony with you, one another, and  
all creation.

SILENT PRAYERS

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Please feel free to address God in a way that is faithful to God's relationship to you.*

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

## SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

*"To care for and pray for each other in trials of the spirit and in times of joy..."*  
Each week we share prayer requests as a congregation, both in prayers led by one of the pastors, and on our pew cards. We list the prayers for each other here as a way to continue to hold one another in prayer.

### Prayers Announced February 23, 2020

#### Pastor Steve Jerbi Leading

- ◇ "Recovery from COVID."
- ◇ "The transition for the start of school for our kiddo."
- ◇ "I am praying for the transformative worship experience for all who join us in the Beyonce Mass this Friday."
- ◇ Afghanistan and Lebanon, and all of those in refugee camps. My heart aches with them."
- ◇ "Activists young and old who are fighting for justice and compassion."  
"The importance of self-care in this ongoing time of extended collective trauma—however and whatever that care looks and feels to each person."  
"Prayers of thanksgiving for HOPE."
- ◇ "People who are suffering from COVID."
- ◇ "For students, teachers, and staff back in school with all of the feels."
- ◇ "I am praying for the health and well-being, and human resolution for the thousands of refugees trying to survive under a Texas bridge."
- ◇ "Wisdom to listen to our scientific and medical experts as we are continuously increasing our knowledge of SARS respiratory viruses and how best to prevent the devastating infections, residual damage and unnecessary deaths."
- ◇ "Prayers for the strength to keep shining my light."

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## WE PROCLAIM

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### THE WORD OF GOD IN SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Corinthians 5:16-20

Kathy Williams

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“We Are: Christ’s Representatives”

Steve Jerbi

SERMON HYMN #417 “This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

Brian Wren and Carlton R. Young

*Cristin Miller, vocals*

## WE RESPOND

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### \*OUR COVENANT

Leader: God of Providence and Grace,  
in a spirit of memory, thanksgiving and hope:

**All: We covenant with You and with one another;**

**To seek and respond to Your word and will,  
made known and to be made known;**

**To worship You in unity and diversity,  
welcoming everyone;**

**To live responsibly within Your creation,  
sharing with gratitude the gifts we are given;**

**To care for and pray for each other,  
in trials of the spirit and in times of joy;**

**To encourage each other in the growth of  
our minds and spirits;**

**To promote Your reign of justice and peace,  
meeting hate with reconciling love; and**

**To reject the false gods of society,  
proclaiming the gospel of Jesus.**

**May God help us and be with us. Amen.**

## OFFERINGS FOR THE MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH

*If you are seated by the side aisle, please find the "Welcome" pad, sign it, and pass it down the row. As the pad is passed back, please take note of those you are sitting with so you can greet them by name following worship.*

*September's special offering supports the scholarship fund of our UCUCB childcare programs: the Child Learning and Care Center, and Trettin Drop-In Preschool. Because of church support, our programs have remained open during the pandemic. This month we will welcome children ages 12 months to pre-kindergarten to our childcare programs. Thank you for your support of this ministry.*

OFFERTORY                    "A Horse with Wings"                    Ricky Ian Gordon  
*Cristin Miller, vocals*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION                    Amy Roon

\*DOXOLOGY MOVEMENT

*You are invited to join in the movements.*

## WE GO FORTH

\*BENEDICTION                    Steve Jerbi

POSTLUDE                    "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" arr. Paul Manz  
*David Nichols*

*We invite you to go and take the good news with you into the world—or you may stay and use this time to listen to the music. Persons of any age may move to the chancel for a better view of the performers and their instruments.*

*Our worship leaders look forward to greeting you after worship. A pastor will remain at the front of the church near the prayer wheel to receive prayer requests.*

## ABOUT THIS SERMON SERIES

**We are**—these two words not only shape our fall series but declare deep truths about our congregation. WE makes it clear that for all of our personal experiences, the path of discipleship is a collective journey. ARE is a statement of being, describing our identity. In the way that Psalm 139 covers our waking and sleeping, our coming and going, these words cover all aspects of our community. *We are shaped by our past. We are participating in God's ongoing liberation. We are hopeful for a future for generations to come. **We are.***

Our series begins with our identity in Christ, being known by God. We are reflections of Christ and friends of Jesus. No matter what else is happening around us, these are always true marks of who we are in the present.

Our attention then shifts to the legacy of who we've been and the work of those who have come before us. We are called to know our foundation, particularly as a community that was intentionally brought into the U District. We are the gifts of the ancestors in faith. We celebrate being a community that pursues both knowledge and wisdom.

As the nights grow longer and seasons begin to turn, we are drawn toward our calling. The future God holds for us is as a covenant people, filled with abundance and citizens of heaven.

Throughout this season we recognize things within ourselves:

- We are a living church, not a historical monument.
- We are a place where heirloom seeds grow alongside new plants and hybrids in God's wild garden.
- We are a place and a people where God's story continues to unfold.

**WE ARE.**

### Spiritual Practice

Create "I am" and "We are" poems. These may be incorporated into worship, our website, our Facebook page, or elsewhere. Send your poems to [worship@universityucc.org](mailto:worship@universityucc.org). Or upload a photo or video to <https://www.dropbox.com/request/3yS3LS3tqcqAoRGHyEbx>.