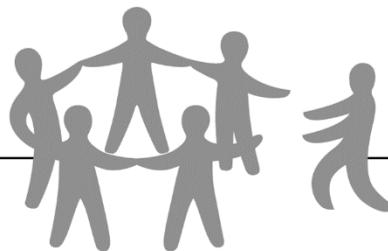




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Worship
& Music

All Saints Day: Service of Memory & Hope

Sunday, November 6, 10:00 am morning service

Rev. Traci Blackmon (she/her), Associate General Minister of Justice and Local Church Ministries for the United Church of Christ, will preach for our service of Memory and Hope and Rev. Courtney Stange-Tregear (she/her), Acting Conference Minister for the Pacific Northwest Conference will be our presider.

Rev. Traci Blackmon serves as the Associate General Minister of Justice and Local Church Ministries for the United Church of Christ. She is the former senior pastor of Christ the King United Church of Christ in Florissant, Missouri and was a leading organizer in response to the 2014 police murder of Michael Brown. She was appointed to the Ferguson Commission and to President Barack Obama’s Advisory Council on Faith-Based Neighborhood Partnerships for the White House. She co-authored the White Privilege curriculum for the United Church of Christ.

At our annual Service of Memory & Hope, we will light candles to remember members of our congregation who have died in the past year, and remember others as well.

Saints and dates and death:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mo Swanson 12/3/2021 | Bill Stark 2/22/2022 |
| Bill Bailey 12/10/2021 | Virginia Wilson 6/3/2022 |
| Steve Adam 1/12/2022 | Muriel Saunders 9/27/2022 |
| Shirley Morrison 1/13/2022 | Sally Pritchard 10/8/2022 |
| Marge Maddux 1/22/2022 | |



Worship
& Music

Ubuntu and Our Guest Preachers

Recently the Pacific Northwest Conference UCC’s Dismantling Racism Task Force sent out an article entitled Welcoming our Black Brown Indigenous Asian and Pacific Islanders (BBIAPI) pastors and BBIAPI guest speakers to our predominantly white churches. It opens by stating,

“Our BBIAPI pastors have made it known that until churches are deeply committed to working towards worship through an anti-racist lens these invitations are not welcoming. We know that this work is never-ending, it is a life-long journey, and we will make mistakes along the way.”

The article then invites congregations to reflect on particular questions around racial justice and hospitality. The action team working on the Calvin Grant that is holding the invitation to BBIAPI preachers this fall used this article to continue the work at UCUC. We also shared it with our Racial Justice Activists team. We share it here because this work of welcome and justice does not live within specific committees, but is a task of the entire congregation. These are the questions posed in the article:

- What inspired your community to make a request for a BBIAPI pastor or guest?
- What does your church hope to gain from a cross-cultural leadership experience?
- Has your congregation committed to anti-racism, both as individuals and as a congregation? What are some of the ways?
- Has your congregation done anti-racism training to support your work of critically reflecting on your cultural privilege as a dominant culture church?
- What steps can your congregation take to ensure the physical, emotional, and spiritual safety and well-being before, during, and after the requested visit by a BBIAPI pastor or guest?
- Have you completed a Racial Audit? A race audit is an information-gathering step that may inform real action steps that have the potential to change practices and behavior
- Have you developed relationships inside and outside your church that respond to the realities of anti-Blackness and the work of anti-racism work you are committed to?
- Are you financially compensating the pastor fairly for the emotional, spiritual, and intellectual work that this interaction will require?

As our committee reflected on these questions there are clear signs of work we have done at UCUC. We know some of the intention in our guest preacher invitations: during Pastor Amy's sabbatical we committed to intentionally ask what it means to center the leadership of Pastors of Color as a way of holding space and welcoming back her leadership as a Black Woman in our congregation. We have committed to anti-racism as individuals and as a congregation: our congregational resolution in 2019 was a visible reflection of our church's longstanding commitment to this work and the ongoing ways in which we live into this resolution continue to shape us. We have done both anti-racism trainings and cross-cultural trainings (like the Intercultural Development Inventory). We have developed relationships inside and beyond the church that help us respond to anti-Blackness. We are compensating our BBIAPI preachers at a rate above our typical guest preacher honorariums.

We also reflect on the work we are still called to do. Our council intention of having every ministry lead participate in the IDI process is still un-realized. There is still more we can do to take care of physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of our preachers. The congregational commitment to racial justice is being met with individuals feeling like this work is somehow different from spiritual formation and care. Our multiracial relationships require deepening and ongoing development.

As a committee, we are grateful for the work of the conference to offer these reflection pieces. As we continue to move through our fall worship series around Ubuntu we continue to experience a widening of God's circle. As we recognize our congregational interdependence with BBIAPI leadership we will continue to be shaped in community and by the Holy Spirit.

– *The Calvin Grant Action Team: Rachel Haxtema, Terry Moore, Jessie McAbee, Lisa Coleman, John Worthington, Pastor Steve Jerbi*

Pastor Search Committee: a year by the numbers

Just a bit over one year ago, the PSC was created and charged by Church Council to seek a candidate to fill the position that opened when Pastor Catherine Foote retired. Berta Hollowell and Royce Morrison agreed to co-chair the committee and soon we were a total of 11 members.

Our first task was to review and edit our Church Profile – a document that put into words where we are as church and what type of pastor we are looking for to join our leadership team. Upon completion (after many versions), the Profile was posted and is available for prospective



Worship
& Music

candidates to read and respond to. The Profile is also posted on our church website – and runs approximate 53 pages.

Since the posting, we have received 22 applicant profiles (or résumés) and selected four for interviews. Of those four, only three were available for first interviews which were held via Zoom. Two of those candidates were invited for second interviews here in Seattle where they were also able to meet with the other pastors and some of the church staff. After those interviews, one candidate informed us they were pursuing a call with another church, and the other was selected by us pursue for call. Discussions were held with that candidate regarding a contract and the details of the position for about two weeks and then we were informed that the candidate would not be accepting our call.

While the news was not what we were expecting, the committee understands that the universe is a mysterious place and we do not control the ways in which it reveals itself. We have faith in the process we have started. For the moment, the committee will be in consultation and discernment with council as to our next steps. Stay tuned.

– Margaret Stine, Pastor Search Committee



Racial Justice

Listening Series: To The Best of Our Knowledge's "Ideas From Africa"

Join Katrina Fitzpatrick, MDiv, on Wednesday evenings November 2, 16, & 30 from 7-9 pm as we listen to and discuss three podcast episodes focused on the cultural richness and the wisdom of Africa. Don't have the time or resources to listen to a podcast? Not to worry: we will listen to each podcast during the first hour and then have a discussion during the second hour. For the Zoom link, see your weekly email, or email office@universityucc.org.

Ideas from Africa (www.ttbook.org/series/ideas-from-africa) is a multimedia series of audio, visual and written word, created and curated by Wisconsin Public Radio, that seeks to illuminate and celebrate the great innovation that is coming out of and redefining the African Continent. The episodes to be discussed are: "How Africans are Building the Cities of the Future" about the truly unique innovations to be found now in an era of African urbanization; "Decolonizing the Mind" with guests Adom Getachew, Simon Gikandi, and Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o; and "Jazz Migrations" an exploration of the history and global path and impact of jazz music.

Special Note to Parents of young children and others: as weekday evenings are often not the most convenient time due to the need of the littles, there will also be an alternative discussion time at the end of the series (date TBD) to debrief the entirety of the content which may be more accessible.

Tent City 3 Requesting Donations

The residents of Tent City 3 have been guests in Lot C for over a month and will be with us through 12/17. TC3 provides a safe, secure, and caring community for people experiencing homelessness. Church members have asked how they can help. TC3 has requested batteries of all sorts (AA, AAA, D). Also on their wish list are the items below. Donations can be dropped off anytime at the encampment on Lot C on 15th Ave NE.

- Blankets
- Tarps
- Building supplies (lumber of all types, zip ties, nails etc.)
- Kitchen supplies (aluminum foil, saran wrap, paper plates, bowls & cups)
- Canned/non-perishable food products. Bottled water.
- Toilet paper.
- Cleaning supplies and hygiene products.
- Camping supplies (flashlights etc.)



Love & Justice

• Snacks, meals, food welcome. To schedule a meal email tc3@sharewheel.org, and you can learn more at www.sharewheel.org/Home/meals-4-shelters.



Creation Care

Thank You from Green Buildings Now

Green Buildings Now is very grateful to UCUC for the generous August special offering of \$3200. These funds will be very helpful for providing engineering support and supplies for creating a fossil-free South Beacon Hill Resilience Hub at the Bethany UCC campus. You can find more information at greenbuildingsnow.org. You can also write to a Seattle City Council member to ask them to continue to support Resilience Hub funding. Thank you!



Sacred Earth Matters: Solar Panels on UCUC

As a Creation Justice church, UCUC is committed to reducing our carbon footprint. Sacred Earth Matters has been interested in what this really means in hard data relating to the solar panels we installed on the roof in 2014. Searching the website for our panels, and the Seattle City light bills, we came up with a graph that shows how much these panels have moved us to a carbon neutral goal. It is not exactly what we had hoped it would show, but it was not insignificant either.

Time period	Mwh	Kwh	\$/Kwh	Saving	Rebates from SCL
6/2014 – 10/2022 (108 months)	222.2	222,200	0.0803	\$17,842.66	\$12,470
Total \$ saved since installation					\$30,312.66

In addition, we installed energy efficient windows on the West side of the church, changed out lighting fixtures to have LED lights, and made upgrades to our filtration systems. The BIG fossil fuels energy costs are now in our heating system. This begs questions about how we move to being a carbon neutral church.

We plan to talk with the Asset Evaluation Committee and the Facilities and Equipment Board to hopefully come up with a long term plan to move us forward. Sacred Earth Matters is anxious to partner with other groups in the church to meet the goal of becoming carbon neutral. *The Earth is Sacred Not Ours to Wreck.*

– Nancy Hannah for Sacred Earth Matters

Land Acknowledgment Action Step for November

Do you have little ones in your life? Read books about the first Thanksgiving with a Native and historical perspective and learn the Thanksgiving Address of the Iroquois Confederacy. All are available in the church library.

- Keepunumuk: Weeâchumun’s Thanksgiving Story by Danielle Greendeer (Mashpee Wampanoag) and Anthony Perry (Chickasaw) with illustrations by Alexis Bunten (Yu’pik and Unangan)
- 1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving (National Geographic) by Catherine O’Neill Grace and Margaret M. Bruchac with photographs by Sisse Brumberg and Cotton Coulson
- Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message by Chief Jake Swamp (Tekaronianeken) and illustrated by Erwin Printup (Cayuga/Tuscarora)

Do you like to shop on Thanksgiving weekend? Support local indigenous artists and the Duwamish Longhouse at the 2022 Annual Native Art Market, November 25-27.

Budgeting for Love & Justice

A significant portion of the money we pledge each year to UCUC goes to our work for Love & Justice. How do we turn those dollars into something meaningful?



Love & Justice

In alignment with our covenant to “live responsibly within Your creation” and “to promote Your reign of justice and peace, meeting hate with reconciling love,” the Love & Justice Committee spends our entrusted funds to support the work of our Love & Justice Action Teams and 501c3s, as well as community organizations involved in direct service and social change.

In 2022, we had the joy of sharing about \$30,000 from the church budget. We also allocated the interest from the Love & Justice Ministry Endowment (\$25,528), formed during our last Capital Campaign, and \$1500 from a revolving fund. Some money is kept in reserve for emergency needs for the final months of the year.

We would love to have a few new committee members to do this faithful and joyful discernment with us!

Love & Justice outlays can be categorized in a number of ways. For instance, we gave about \$19,000 to organizations offering direct service, \$11,600 to communities engaged in advocacy and systemic change, and \$23,800 to support our Love & Justice Action Teams and UCUC-related 501c3s. \$1000 went to the national UCC Offering, *Strengthen the Church*, to build leadership within the denomination.

In determining contributions, we also use the lens of our five Love & Justice priorities, adopted in 2018.

- Read more and see who we distributed 2022 moneys to at www.universityucc.org/budgeting-for-love-justice/

Mwanzo: Hope has a home here!

What does *Hope has a home here!* Look like in practice?

This, from Country Manager, Jonathan Aluoka:

Madam Careen Owino’s heart is full of joy and gratitude for how Mwanzo has shaped her life. She can’t believe that she is now a fully trained teacher who started working at Mwanzo with a high school education. She registered for her certificate in ECDE and thereafter proceeded to do her diploma in ECDE. She is the true testimony of our theme “HOPE HAS A HOME HERE.”

And from Mwanzo Board Member, Mary Sue Galvin:

Adult hope starts to shift away from self to making a difference in the world – leaving a legacy of some sort – like teaching children, knowing that an education will make a difference.

- Read more at www.universityucc.org/mwanzo-hope-has-a-home-here/
– Lily Labiri, Mwanzo Board of Directors

Womanist Storytelling Project

A team from the Global Arts and Theology Experience returned to Seattle to worship with UCUC as a transitional moment in our partnership with the congregation. In addition, we were also there to lay the foundation for the launch of GATE’s Womanist Storytelling Project. This new initiative serves as a bridge initiative for the launch of the Black Girl Magic Academy. The Womanist Storytelling Project seeks to use the arts and digital media as a tool to recover and amplify the narratives of Black women in local communities. Part of our work in the Beyoncé Mass is to facilitate a conversation about storytelling and art as integral parts of God’s work in the world. This initiative continues the work of storytelling as a crucial mechanism for God’s creative, redemptive work.

During our time we collected stories of Black women in the greater Seattle-Tacoma area. Our original intention was to film Black girls and women sharing a part of their story as a part of the narrative of how Black women have transformed the greater Seattle area. While there we spoke



Love & Justice



Love & Justice



Racial Justice

with five Black womxn ranging in age from 16 to 76 years old. These are all people with whom we developed relationships around the Beyoncé Mass. We were only able to film one woman because most of the people were uncomfortable telling their story on camera in an initial conversation. Instead, we were able to have a range of conversations about how Black women are showing up in Seattle. We also had meaningful conversation about how GATE can help create brave, safer space for Black women and nonbinary people. Our work in Seattle was a strong beginning to continuing to amplify Black women, and open up sacred space that reflects their presence in the world.

– Rev. Yolanda Norton



Worship
& Music

Worship in November

November greets us with the conclusion of our fall worship series, *Ubuntu: I am because we are*. Our texts look at the expansiveness of God’s love - a call to be a house of prayer for all peoples, a declaration to the Ethiopian eunuch that God’s blessing is for all ethnic, religious, and gender non-conforming people, a reminder that Jesus tells us he has other sheep that we do not know. With these scriptures in mind, we start to see the ways our congregation is called to an interconnectedness and kinship throughout the community.

We have incredible preachers lined up for this month. Learn more about our visiting preachers: www.universityucc.org/november-guest-preachers/. On November 6, Rev. Traci Blackmon (she/her), Associate General Minister of Justice and Local Church Ministries for the United Church of Christ, will preach for our service of Memory and Hope and Rev. Courtney Stange-Tregear (she/her), Acting Conference Minister for the Pacific Northwest Conference will be our presider.

On November 13, Rev. Paul Ortiz, pastor at University Gathering (formerly University Temple Methodist) will preach and we welcome Vania Bynum and Betsey Beckman to offer liturgical dance. November 20th concludes our *Ubuntu* series as our covenant partner Rev. Deb Jarvis preaches.

This month will also see the beginning of Advent, our preparation for the joy of Christmastide. Our Advent theme is Harambee!, a kiswahili word that is understood as *let’s pull together!* The word is on the coat of arms for Kenya and has been an important part of the political and cultural identity particularly since Kenyan independence in 1963. Within the USA, Harambee chants are part of many Kwanzaa celebrations. Learning from our Kenyan friends, we will spend this season pulling together in anticipation of a more just and vibrant world anticipated with the presence of Christ. Our first Sunday of Advent is November 27 and Katrina Fitzpatrick will be our preacher.

November Special Offering: Global Hunger

Our November special offering focuses on the worldwide hunger crisis which now threatens to turn into famine for many. Hunger is extreme in too many locations, and has been substantially increased by the war in Ukraine. Food, fuel, and fertilizer usually shipped to India and African countries have not been sent, and Ukraine needs food itself.

We chose CARE (care.org/) and The Hunger Project (thp.org/) as our co-recipients in an effort to help in as many places as possible. Each organization focuses relief efforts in different countries and populations.

CARE maintains a huge and complex organization to support the best methods to reduce and control these hunger tragedies. Among the methods CARE supports are viewing children as key to reducing hunger. If food can be given to them at school and at other locations they can be adequately nourished.



Love & Justice

The Hunger Project works cooperatively with women's groups, community organizations, and governments to address and solve the problems causing hunger. They focus on systemic change in 22 countries, including those experiencing hunger crises. Their strategy is to start with women, to mobilize community building on local strengths. If possible, the Hunger Project will also engage and work with the government.

Thank you for your life-saving gift to many families and people who otherwise would have no food.

Please give online or send a check to UCUC, noting on the memo line "November Special Offering".

Children, Youth, and Families Ministry

Update from the October Fall Family Retreat at Pilgrim Firs:



**Christian
Formation**

The story of how the Fall Family Retreat came together is one that feels like one of those great spiritual lessons. It was a moment and an opportunity to just say YES! There was an ask for a retreat by families, and we just happened to have a date reserved at camp that no longer worked for the original plan. And here it was, the opportunity to say yes to a weekend retreat, to adventure, to letting it be what it was going to be, to Spirit.

We planned a weekend away, not fully knowing who all would come or what we would do, but we knew that if we just had the chance to be together for a weekend out in nature, that would be a gift. And in the end, we had 15 families sign-up and 4 staff members (52 people total). Carolyn, our Children's Ministry Coordinator, along with our fabulous staff, Holly, Bryan and LaDrina came for Saturday and provided time for crafting and fun for the kids, along with some crafting and connection time for the parents. There was boating, swimming (in October!), walking around the lake, singing, tie-dye, ping-pong'ing, yummy food, games, a talent show, laughter, prayer and worship by the water! My heart was so full of joy over the weekend! One of my greatest joys was the reaction of my children when we got home – *"mom! We HAVE. GOT. To go back to camp again!"*

This is the beauty of church and of the Holy Spirit – we said yes to something, and we didn't fully know what we were saying yes to. But we knew it would be worth it! Sometimes, the Spirit invites us to just say yes, and go! I am so grateful we followed the invitation. I am grateful for this community of faith that can laugh together until we cry and can explore the richness and fullness of life (both the joys and the sorrows).

We are so grateful to the Phyllis & Ralph Swanson Endowment for Children & Youth for helping make this retreat affordable for all families, so that all families could say "yes!" Thank you Pilgrim Firs! Thank you beloved community! Let us continue to say yes to Spirit's invitations!

– Margaret Swanson, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Youth Program

Sundays November 6, 13, 20, & 27: 9am Youth Group continues

Youth Group continues for youth in grades 6 – 12. Youth are invited to join in-person (masked) at church in the Pilgrimage Room. Join us for discussions, reflection, and connections.

Fall All Youth Retreat:

November 11 – 13

We are excited to invite youth in grades 6 -12 (and their friends) to the Fall All Youth Retreat at Lazy F Camp in Ellensburg! It will be a wonderful weekend to be together in fellowship and community. We will get outside and explore, play games, and have discussions about life and faith. The leaders are Pastor Steve Jerbi, Mike Zevenbergen, Margaret Swanson & Linnea Coleman. Please be in touch with Margaret Swanson (mswanson@universityucc.org) if you

have any questions. Registration is open until November 1st. Register at: bit.ly/AllYouthRetreat22

Info Meeting: Our Whole Lives, Sexuality and our Faith class for grades 10 – 12: Sunday, November 20, 9am – 10am

Parents and youth in grades 10, 11 & 12 are invited to an info session about the upcoming Our Whole Lives class running January – April/May 2023. Youth and parents will learn about the schedule for the class, the topics that will be covered, meet the leaders and have the chance to ask any questions that might help them in making their decision for OWL class.

Children’s Ministry

Sunday Morning Children’s Program

Children’s Ministry Sunday mornings are easing into our new normal as we have made the transition to classrooms by age groups as well as a Chapel Communion Worship every first Sunday. The lounge will continue to be a gathering place for families and children on Sunday morning where you will be able to sign-in for Sunday School or Childcare. Childcare is offered in the lounge from 8:30 – 10:00 am for children up to 5th grade and in the Child Care Center from 8:30 am until the end of worship for our infants and toddlers.

Children up to 5th grade are invited to attend the first part of our worship service, and following the children’s worship time in the sanctuary, they will be dismissed to gather for snacks in the lounge and proceed to their assigned classrooms with their Sunday School Leaders. Following Sunday School class, the children will return to the lounge to be received and signed-out by their parents.

We are especially grateful for and wish to thank our Children’s Ministry Volunteer Sunday School Leaders for 2022-23:

Jenny Breed	Sara Kerr	David Ovens
Christine Buzard	Gina Massoni	Sarah Wallen
Lisa Coleman	Miranda Meyer	
Barbara Carmichael	Dennis O’Brien	

There are still opportunities to volunteer on the occasional, on-call and regular basis. If you would like to join this outstanding group of people and volunteer with the Children’s Ministry, contact Carolyn Johnson Davis at cjdavis@universityucc.org or Margaret Swanson at mswanson@ucucc.org.

Partnership with YMCA & School and Winter Warm Items Drive:

UCUCC’s Children’s Ministry is partnering with the University Family YMCA to impact social advancement within our community. Students need school supplies all year round, and we are continuing to accept school supplies that will be made into take-home kits by the children and parents at UCUCC and distributed to children at the Mercy Magnuson Place children’s classroom. We are also accepting warm winter items such as socks, sweaters, umbrellas, blankets throughout the month of November until the 20th, in our drop box in the Narthex.

Mark your calendars:

DECEMBER PARENT’S DAY OUT and CHILDREN’S FUN-FEST

December 10, 11am – 3pm at our Seattle campus

Parents are invited to drop their children off at church for four hours of childcare. The children will enjoy games, art and other fun activities, while their parents get some time to themselves. Snacks and lunch will be provided. Look for a registration sign-up sheet in the lounge and in the weekly Children’s Ministry email, as well as posted on the Children’s Ministry bulletin board in the church hallway outside of the Child Care Center.



Christian Formation



Stewardship

Pledge Campaign Update

The Pledge Campaign is in full swing! *(Cue big band swing music!)*

Thank you for joining in our Pledge Dedication Sunday on October 30th. We are excited for the dedication and enthusiasm shown for our community. If you've not yet turned in a pledge card — it's not too late! Online pledging is also always welcome.

If you have not yet had the opportunity, please take a look at our Red Wall display to see the good we are doing in the world for our staff, community and congregation as we celebrate the 70th year in our current building!

This month, we will have the opportunity to come together to approve our 2023 operating budget on **November 20** at the Annual Congregational Budget Meeting.

Our theme for worship and our pledge campaign, Ubuntu means “I am, because we are,” and this idea of community feels like a radical concept these days. Coming together as a community to support our neighbors is central to the work we are called to do as Christians in a deeply fractured world.

We live in challenging times and together have the ability to leverage our collective power to create powerful and meaningful change. We are investing in the future of our community and of our world. Thank you for being part of this journey!

– *Cristin Miller, Your 2022 Stewardship Pledge Campaign Manager*



Christian Formation

Seabeck Book Club

Seabeck Book Club starts a new book **Monday October 31: *Oak Flat: A Fight for Sacred Land in the American West*** by Lauren Redniss (2020). The San Carlos Apaches are dismayed when a sacred site for young women is transferred to private ownership so copper can be mined. Redniss' deep reporting and haunting artwork anchor this mesmerizing human narrative. Oak Flat tells the story of a race-against-time struggle for a swath of American land, which pits one of the poorest communities in the United States against the federal government and two of the world's largest mining conglomerates. The book follows the fortunes of two families with profound connections to the contested site: the Nosies, an Apache family whose teenage daughter is an activist and leader in the Oak Flat fight, and the Gorhams, a mining family whose patriarch was a sheriff in the lawless early days of Arizona statehood. It also examines the worldwide availability of copper ore and questions the importance of any given copper mine. For information and the Zoom link contact beth.bartholomew.208@gmail.com.

Seabeck Book Club meets on Zoom Monday evenings 7-8 pm. [Note: The Seabeck Book Club will be on hiatus in December.]

– *Beth Bartholomew*



Racial Justice

Racial Justice Retreat

Saturday, November 5, 9:30 am-2:00 pm at the Seattle Campus and on Zoom

All are welcome to our fall Racial Justice Retreat, taking place in person at our Seattle Campus and on Zoom. At the retreat, we will be engaging in small group conversations on issues about which the conversers feel deeply. Find the link to the Zoom meeting in the weekly email or contact office@universityucc.org.



Gathering Ground Event: Cycles of Life/Cycles of Gratitude Q & A & Workshop

Saturday, November 19, 6:00–8:00 pm, on Zoom

This is a special gathering to experience a Gathering Ground activity, hear updates on the program, and ask questions. You'll join into a reflection on the cycles of life and cycles of gratitude found as you drink your favorite beverage. Please log on with a cup of something you enjoy! RSVP at bpt.me/5601220.

Gathering Ground Greeting Cards

Just in time for Winter Solstice! You can celebrate the season and support our non-profit programs at the same time. Choose among 4 designs that celebrate the natural world and prompt reflection, created by Gathering Ground Crafter Molly Ebert. Free shipping! See more and place your order at gatheringground.org/store.



Stewardship



Love & Justice



Open & Affirming



Calling & Engagement

UCUCC Congregational Budget meeting

Sunday, November 20, 11:30 am, Sanctuary and on Zoom.

Please plan to attend our annual budget meeting! Hear about priorities for the year and vote. The Zoom link will be in upcoming weekly emails or by contacting office@universityucc.org.

Faith Action Network Annual Dinner: Pathways of Solidarity

Sunday, November 20, 4:30 - 7:30pm, Renton Pavilion, 233 Burnett Avenue S, and on Zoom

A celebration and fundraiser for the Faith Action Network, a multifaith, statewide partnership that strives for a just, compassionate, and sustainable world through community building, education, and courageous public action, especially advocacy at the state level. The Love & Justice Committee has sponsored a UCUCC table of 8. Contact Elizabeth Dickinson for a free ticket: dickinson@fanwa.org, 206-498-4654.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

Sunday, November 20, 5:00 pm

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 111 NE 80th St, Seattle

As part of our identity as an Open & Affirming Church and in a spirit of unity, UCUCC is invited to participate in the Transgender Day of Remembrance at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Join us in Decorating our Narthex and Sanctuary for Christmas

We're looking for volunteers to come help decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. Come join us as we put up the greens and the tree, set up the Advent candle wreaths and the creche, and help with other decorations. Advent begins on Sunday, November 27, so we'll decorate on Saturday, November 26. Join us Saturday morning, then go home to watch the Apple Cup (in Pullman) on TV. Watch the weekly church news for details on how to sign up. – *Carol Ingram, Chair, Facilities and Equipment Committee*

Superfluity Christmas Sale

Sunday, November 27, before and after worship service in the Narthex

Discover what new Christmas décor you might take home with you at our annual Superfluity Christmas Sale! Our intrepid Superfluity volunteers have saved some wonderful items from the donations from last year's Superfluity. Make sure to bring some cash or a check for that "must have" decoration!

Advent Workshop

Sunday, December 4th, 2022, 11:30 – 1:30pm in Ostrander Hall

It is with great JOY that we step back into our tradition of Advent Workshop this year at UCUCC. We HOPE you join us after worship downstairs as we journey together through the Advent season and prepare for Christmas! Share lunch, a treat, hot cocoa, or coffee to nourish

your body. Then step into our creative wonderland where you can make art, candles, jewelry, evergreen arrangements, and so much more. This is a wonderful chance to create some thoughtful handmade gifts. The kids will LOVE craft stations with beads, building, and probably even a bit of glitter. This event is free and people of all ages and levels of craftiness are encouraged to join in the fun. May the PEACE of the season surround us all!

Are you inspired to help make Advent Worship a wonderful experience? Fantastic, because we need a lot of volunteers to make the magic happen!

There are so many different ways that you can contribute, here are a few:

- Set-up on Saturday Dec 3rd
- Assist in monitoring and refreshing food and drink tables
- Bring treats to share
- Host a table (this could be a project we already have planned or you can create your own!)
- Clean-up after the event on Dec 4th

Please contact Sarah Marshall smarshall@universityucc.org or (206) 251-0620 to sign up to help! You can also learn more or sign up to volunteer at the table in the Narthex on Sunday mornings.

Christmas Families starting soon!

Our UCUCS tradition of Christmas Families continues this year with the opportunity to sponsor a family in our community! We are partnering with two local groups, The Lake City Holiday Project and Bethany UCC. Families of all different sizes would love your support this Christmas, and you'll learn some basic information about these folks, including gift ideas. This year you may be asked to shop for gifts or gift cards depending on the preference of the individuals (budget about \$50 per person). In addition, you may always make a monetary gift to the church designated to 'Christmas Families'. That money will be used to fund this ministry and serve families that have not been adopted. (Donate online by clicking GIVE on our church homepage or by mailing/dropping off a check to the church office and noting "Christmas Families" in the memo line.) Bring your gifts to church on **Dec 11**, and drop them off downstairs in Ostrander Hall.

To be matched with a family or for more information please contact Sarah Marshall at smarshall@universityucc.org or (206) 251-0620. You can also sign-up in the Narthex before and after service on Nov 20, Nov 27, and Dec 4th.

Offering of Gifts - December 11

It's time for our annual Offering of Gifts! Nine local agencies will receive Christmas gifts from our congregation. Some agencies prefer to receive gift cards only, while others are accepting actual presents. Below, you will find information about the agencies, their work, and their wish lists. You are invited to choose one or more of the agencies, shop joyfully (gifts should be new), and help brighten the holiday season for someone in need! **On Sunday, December 11, bring your present(s) or gift card(s) into the worship service with you.** During the time of offering, you will be invited to bring your gifts to the communion table. If you are not currently attending in-person services, you can mail gift cards to UCUCS, attention Vicki Farmer and/or contact Susan Ovens (susan.ovens@comcast.net) if you need to drop off a gift on or before Dec. 11. Please help us remove any barriers to your participation this year!

Please be sure that your present or gift card is clearly labeled with the agency name, and note that most of our agencies prefer unwrapped gifts. Clear labeling helps things to flow smoothly when



Love & Justice



Love & Justice

gifts are being sorted following the service and will ensure that your gift gets where you want it to go. Also include applicable details such as age or clothing size if the gift is wrapped.

- See each agency's wishlist at www.universityucc.org/offering-of-gifts-sunday-december-11-2022/. Or you can pick up a paper copy in the Church office.

Music During Advent

In addition to the worship service music, our Music Director, Benjamin Rogers, has been working to plan some festive music after services during advent – stay “tuned” for more information!

Mix-Sups Are BACK!

We are all longing to share meals and good conversation together. Mix-Sups will be back in 2023! Look for sign-ups in January, with shared meals in small groups during Feb, March, April, and May. To best protect our community and make these events as accessible as possible, we anticipate a few Covid-19 safety requirements for everyone participating in these gatherings. The January issue of Church and Home will have more details. If you are interested in working on the details, please contact Carol Coleman or Mary Sue Galvin.



Calling &
Engagement

Come visit our Scheyer Library!

The library is tucked back in a quiet corner, but is open for browsing and hanging out before and after church every Sunday (even if the door is closed). We have a great collection of all kinds of books! We often receive donations and cannot always use them in the library, so there may also be books and magazines for you to take. If Edith or Jessie are there, come say hi! If you're interested in helping out in the library, let us know. We are looking to reestablish a small group to keep the library going.



Christian
Formation

New in the library this month:

We have two books for parents or other caring adults to share with children on the topic of sex! These two interactive books by Cory Silverberg and Fiona Smyth cover many aspects of identity and development for young people in a comic book style. They are gender- and sexuality-inclusive. The first book is *Sex is a Funny Word: A Book about Bodies, Feelings, and You* is appropriate for ages 8-10. The second book *You Know, Sex: Bodies, Gender, Puberty, and Other Things* is chock full of information and is appropriate for older children/teenagers. Thank you to Beth Bartholomew for suggesting *Sex is A Funny Word* for the library!

Book Review: Wild Seed by Octavia E. Butler

Wild Seed by Octavia E. Butler (1980)

“A brilliantly mythic tale of primal archetypes and an iconic exploration of gender and eternity” proclaims the book. And it is. This is the story of two immortals, one who cannot die and one who cannot be killed. It starts in inland West Africa, goes to the coast and a wooden sailing ship to cross the Atlantic, landing in 17th century upstate New York. Butler weaves in history and culture along the way.

- Read the full review at www.universityucc.org/book-review-wild-seed/

– Beth Bartholomew

Asset Enhancement Task Force November 2022

The Asset Enhancement Task Force is a team of members and staff, formed in the spring of 2022, working together to look into future planning for our church community.

- Read what the Task Force looked at this past month at www.universityucc.org/asset-enhancement-task-force-november-2022/

Council Meeting Summary September 21, 2022

The UCUC Council met on September 21, 2022.



Stewardship

Council spent a good part of the meeting time having a “deep dive” discussion about our racial justice efforts. Breakout groups focused on what we have noticed about “communication, coordination and collaboration in our racial justice work.” Council members were given homework to work on with their ministries for the next quarterly Racial Justice collaboration. Each ministry is to consider how their work relates to the Racial Justice Resolution? What are the ministries’ strengths and weaknesses in the area of Racial Justice, and what are the barriers to doing Racial Justice work within the ministry?

- Read the full summary at www.universityucc.org/council-meeting-summary-september-21-2022/

Afghan Immigrant Initiative: Seamstress Needs Work



Love & Justice

Suddenly, summer is in its last days while fall, with its shorter daylight hours, crisper air, and glorious foliage, is upon us. For the Hamidi family, this means their school-aged children are at last in a reliable school routine. At the same time, many of the benefits the family was initially entitled to are expiring, reducing their income to slightly more than \$14 per hour – not nearly what this family of 8 needs to survive. While they still lived in Afghanistan, Mom was employed as a seamstress, and would dearly like to work again. If she made a steady wage, the family might be able to survive with her additional income. **Do you know someone who employs seamstresses? Or someone who knows someone?** Her skills are versatile and she has extensive experience. She has a sewing machine (donated) and will need to work from home so she can be available when her children leave for and return from school. We’ve received many generous donations of different types, but this is a different request: Mom needs to work and the sooner the better! Please think of anyone you know who might have connections. If you have ideas that could help, please contact Cassie Emanuel at cassieemanuel12@gmail.com.

Meals for people in our UCUC community



Calling & Engagement

One of the ministries the Parish Care Committee coordinates is finding people who would like to help provide a meal for someone or a family who may be experiencing a *trial of the spirit or time of joy* as we say in our covenant together. This is one way to give a little extra love and support.

If you would like to be on our email list to help with a meal from time to time, deliver a meal to those in need, or have questions about contributing soup or a casserole, please contact Star Leonard-Fleckman starleonardfleckman@gmail.com or Carol Coleman parishcaresupport@universityucc.org.

Welcoming Rev. Dr. Courtney Stange-Tregear

Please join me in welcoming the Rev. Dr. Courtney Stange-Tregear as our Acting Conference Minister! Courtney has served in the Pacific Northwest Conference for the past six years as Minister for Church Vitality, and previously served as Acting Conference Minister during the Rev. Mike Denton’s sabbatical. You may be familiar with Courtney from her work curating the Lenten Devotional series (and the devotional book created from our 2020 lent reflections). She has also been the staff support for the PNC Stewardship Committee and PNC Church Development Committee, she has led retreats and annual meeting, she created the weekly moderator’s group to support local church leadership during the pandemic, and so much more.

- Read the full letter from Indigo Brown, UCC Pacific Northwest Conference Vice Moderator at www.universityucc.org/welcoming-rev-dr-courtney-stange-tregear/.



Calling &
Engagement

Podcast from our Writer in Residence

Our Writer in Residence, Debra Jarvis, has been a hospital and hospice chaplain for over 35 years. Many times she walked out of a home or a hospital room and thought, "Everyone should have heard that conversation!" Her patients shared their wisdom, insight and laughter with her. One thing they all talked about was how difficult it was to find anybody to listen to them talk about death. She started her podcast [The Final Say: Conversations with People Facing Death](http://www.TheFinalSayPodcast.com), so listeners could get comfortable talking about death and--like she usually does--learn some things about life.

When she first got this idea, Peter Ilgenfritz was facilitating a group for men with life-threatening illnesses: Bob Fitzgerald, Harlan Young, Don Mallet, John Lewis and Bill Bailey. Deb interviewed them all except John who died before she got a chance to talk with him. (Don's episode has not yet dropped.)

You can hear all these conversation and more on Apple podcasts, Spotify or wherever you get your podcasts. You can also listen right on your computer at the website, www.TheFinalSayPodcast.com.

Death Announcements

Sally Pritchard

Born: January 28, 1937

Died: October 8, 2022

Sally died peacefully on October 8th after having a stroke the week before. Sally has been a long-time member having first attended as a student while at the University of Washington where she met husband Barry. She began attending again in 1968 along with her two daughters Meighan and Molly. Sally loved this community and was involved in so many ways including the Childcare Board, organizing office volunteers, senior lunches, cooking breakfast for ROOTS shelter, and working on Superfluity and other committees. Many have benefited from her volunteer work, hospitality, and leadership. She was a positive, caring person with a spirit of welcome. She will be greatly missed.

She was preceded in death by husband Barry and daughter Molly. Please hold daughter Meighan, granddaughter Bronwen, son-in-law Simon, and Sally's family in your prayers and thoughts.

A memorial service will be held at church on Saturday, November 5th at 2:30pm followed by a reception. We will have food and beverages in the Lounge, while continuing to keep the sanctuary and narthex as a "masked" zone. Please contact Marcia McCracken if you would like to bake some cookies for the reception (marciamcc@comcats.net).

Muriel Saunders

Born: July 2, 1932

Died: September 27, 2022

Muriel died peacefully on Tuesday, September 27th with Stephan by her side. She joined our church in October 2020 via online. Muriel had deep roots in the UCC, joining All Pilgrims Christian Church in 1949. She and Stephan met at All Pilgrims volunteering for coffee hour. Muriel appreciated the welcome to her new church home, participating in Bible Study, and was a delight to know.

A memorial service was held in our church on October 9th.

Please hold her husband, Stephan Gerhardt in your prayers.

Church building updates and office hours

Staff holidays:

Thurs and Friday, November 24-25 for Thanksgiving holiday (building closed)

Church office hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sundays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

The office staff and program staff and pastors continue to work mostly from home. To access the building, please contact the custodian on duty at 206-612-2144.

Contact a pastor in an emergency. A pastor is always available for pastoral emergencies. Please call or text 206-445-3378, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Order a Poinsettia to brighten our Sanctuary for Christmas

Each year, we invite our church members to honor and remember friends and loved ones by contributing to our Advent Poinsettia display. Your contribution will help fill our Sanctuary with holiday spirit!

We purchase poinsettias from the Nathan Hall High School Horticulture and Urban Farm. Our purchases support a program where students grow edible and ornamental plants using sustainable methods. Visit their facebook page for information:

www.facebook.com/hale.horticulture

The poinsettias will decorate our worship services Dec. 18-25. For each of those services, we will publish the names of those honored by poinsettias in the Sunday bulletin.

You can order online by going to your MyUCUCC account and choosing, “Available Registrations” from the “I want to view” box. Then click on the Poinsettia order form. Or fill out this form and drop of or mail it to the church with your check by Dec 12. Please clearly print all names. We will use your spelling for all names we print in the bulletin.

Your Name _____

Phone/email _____

I/we want to donate ____ plant(s) at \$15 each.

Payment in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Church and Home is a monthly publication of University Congregational United Church of Christ.

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We are located at 4515 16th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98105-4201. www.universityucc.org

University Congregational UCC is an open and affirming church, welcoming everyone regardless of gender, sexual-orientation, race, ethnicity or ability.

Join us on Sunday mornings at 10 am for worship in-person or via live stream. (Check homepage of website for links to Zoom livestream).

Join us on Sunday evening at 5 pm for our digital service

on Facebook (www.facebook.com/UCUCCSeattle) or YouTube

(www.youtube.com/channel/UCVf_Ym2r8eJd8_c9Xovek6Q/videos)

All articles in this printed newsletter can also be found on our website. Go to:

www.universityucc.org/whats-up-now/

The deadline for submission for **next month's** issue is the 15th of **this month**.

Email submissions to Churchandhome@universityucc.org.

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Worship in November: Ubuntu and Harambee!

November greets us with the conclusion of our fall worship series, *Ubuntu: I am because we are*. Our texts look at the expansiveness of God's love – a call to be a house of prayer for all peoples, a declaration to the Ethiopian eunuch that God's blessing is for all ethnic, religious, and gender non-conforming people, a reminder that Jesus tells us he has other sheep that we do not know. With these scriptures in mind, we start to see the ways our congregation is called to an interconnectedness and kinship throughout the community.

This month will also see the beginning of advent, our preparation for the joy of Christmastide. Our advent theme is Harambee!, a kiswahili word that is understood as let's pull together! The word is on the coat of arms for Kenya and has been an important part of the political and cultural identity particularly since Kenyan independence in 1963. Within the USA, Harambee chants are part of many Kwanzaa celebrations. Learning from our Kenyan friends, we will spend this season pulling together in anticipation of a more just and vibrant world anticipated with the presence of Christ.

November 6: Ubuntu: A House of Prayer for All; Preacher: Rev. Traci Blackmon; Scripture: Isaiah 56:1-8

November 13: Ubuntu: There are no Outsiders; Preacher: Rev. Paul Ortiz; Scripture: Acts 8:26-40

November 20: Ubuntu: Open to All; Preacher: Rev. Deb Jarvis; Scripture: John 10:14-16

November 27: Harambee! Let Justice Roll Down; Preacher: Katrina Fitzpatrick; Scripture: Amos 5:18-24