

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, June 9

8:45 - 9:45 am, Sunday Continental Breakfast, Lounge

10:00 - 11:00 am, Worship, Sanctuary and livestreamed

5:30 pm -7:30pm Youth End of Year Party - Narthex, Lounge

5:00 pm Worship service online

Monday, June 10

7:00 pm -8:30 pm Practicing the Presence of God -Chapel

7:00 pm -9:00 pm Indigenous Perspectives Bookclub (Zoom 3)

Tuesday, June 11

10:00 -11:30 am, Bible Study (Zoom 2)

7:00 pm -8:00pm Welcome Committee monthly meeting (Zoom), Library

Wednesday, June 12

10:00-10:30am, Prayer Circle (Zoom)

Thursday, June 13

7:15 am -8:30 am Thursday Morning Centering Prayer (Zoom 1)

7:00 pm -9:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Saturday, June 15

7:00 pm- 9:00 Northwest Girl'sChoir and Phoenix Children's Choir
Concert - Sanctuary

Sunday, June 16

8:45 - 9:45am, Sunday Continental Breakfast, Lounge

10:00 - 11:00am, Worship Sanctuary and livestreamed

11:30 -1:30 Legacy Planning (Hybrid)

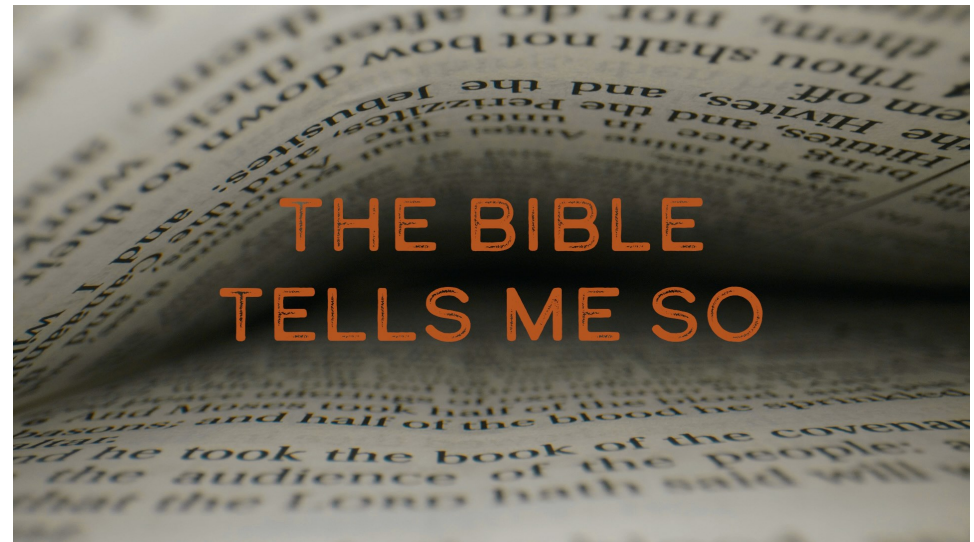
12:00 pm -2:00 pm Israel Palestine Justice meeting (Zoom)

For your calendar

Sunday, June 23, 2pm, Dick Hall, , Sanctuary *If you would like to help with the receptions, please contact [Carol Coleman](#).*

The Bible Tells Me So: Parable of the Mustard Seed

June 9, 2024 — 10:00 a.m.



UNIVERSITY CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

Online at universityucc.org and YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram
Wifi name: UCUC, password Wirel3ss
office@universityucc.org

206-524-2322

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

University Congregational UCC shares as our core values:



We are an intergenerational community, committed to being family-friendly.



We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, welcoming all and explicitly honoring the belovedness of people who are Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and Non-binary.



We are a Creation Justice Congregation, declaring Earth is Sacred. We celebrate the wonders of God's creation and the intersectional work of protecting communities, ecosystems, and the climate.



We are a racial justice congregation. We do the work to address the impact of racism internally, interpersonally, institutionally, and systemically.

As Christians, we gather with different beliefs and theologies. We are a progressive Christian community that honors our diversity. We also find unity in the way we build community. Our covenant guides this.

Please silence ringers and turn off mobile hotspots, which interfere with our technical system. Thank you.

In our Sanctuary, the balcony is our **mask-required zone**, and our **fragrance-free zone** is the back left side of the Sanctuary. Thank you for considering the needs of our community.



Services are recorded. If you do not wish to be included in a recording, please contact the office or a minister.

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

Note from Artist in Residence about New Sanctuary Art

I call the new banners “Elemental”. The ones on the ends in the sanctuary represent Earth, Wind, Fire, and Water. The two in the middle represent things that are perennial, evergreen, constant and things that are annual, seasonal, new, fresh.

I created these banners to go with the new series “The Bible Tells Me So” because, the Bible stories we learn are elemental in our Christian education. Also, in all the Bible stories, the natural elements are a part of the story in one way or another (sometimes the main feature!). Bible stories can be very familiar and a constant in what we think about and do as Christians. Now and again, we see new things, look at a story with fresh eyes and find new meaning and understanding as we continue our journey together.

Blessings, Nadine Santo Pietro



Sunday Worship Flower Donors Needed

If you would like to donate flowers for one of our services, please contact Keri. Email: office@universityucc.org



THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO: PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

WE GATHER

**please rise in body or spirit*

BELL

PRELUDE

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

Ludvig M. Lindeman, arr. Jonathan Reuss

WELCOME

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN # 407 “How Firm a Foundation”

K, early U.S. melody

*LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We gather as guests of the Duwamish people on their traditional land that touches the shared waters of other Coast Salish tribes. We understand that their identity and richness of culture are deeply connected with the mountains, valleys, waterways, and shorelines that surround us all.

We commit to learning about the Duwamish, other indigenous cultures, and the historical and ongoing oppression of indigenous peoples. We strive to nurture our relationship with indigenous peoples, especially our neighbors, by joining their efforts to work for social justice and to care for this land.

*SHARING THE PEACE

*RESPONSE HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me” vs. 1

Words rev. Amy Roon

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Some folks they have read it wrong; Jesus tells me I belong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

God of parables and riddles
 God of story and proclamation
 God of comfort
 God of affliction
 God of the salt
 God of the fire
 Come now
 Be now
 Here now.

SONG WITH OUR CHILDREN “I’ve Got the Joy Down in My Heart”

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER APPRECIATION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, Our Mother, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power,
 and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Children are invited to remain in worship through the sermon today.

TIME OF RECONCILIATION AND FORGIVENESS

CONFESSION

**Holy God,
 We are sorry for the things we’ve done and haven’t done.
 Forgive us.**

Senior Sack Lunch

June 10 & (June 24), Monday 12:00 pm -1:30 pm

Join seniors in the UCUC community the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month— and bring a lunch for yourself. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided. Noon to 1:30PM

The June 10th Senior Lunch invites you to come and hear Jennifer Gray speak about hearing loss. We will gather at noon for lunch and socializing and then Jennifer will speak.

The June 24th Senior Lunch will be our last lunch until September. The topic will be favorite summer memories. We will share with our table mates and some sharing with the whole group.

Planning your Legacy—End of Life choices

Sundays after worship, O-Hall

June 16, Gail Crouch leads a session on planning your memorial service. To join online, see link in email

June 23, Brother Stephan Gerhardt leads a session on important information to share with one’s next of kin.

The recorded presentations for each of the sessions will be available on our YouTube channel for 4 weeks if you want to rewatch it, or weren't able to be there.

Elder law, wills, trusts, and powers of attorney, with Anna van Pelt, available until June 22nd.

Medical directives, death with dignity, and burial options with Bob Free and Wendy Gelbart of End-of-Life Washington, available until June 28th. Direct links available in your weekly email.

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.

Spoken Prayers during the Sunday 6/2 worship service:

*Continued prayers for Cassie Emanuel who broke her arm while on vacation.

*Prayers for Rebecca Rickabaugh who over a week ago slipped and broke her leg.

*Prayers from Glenda Carper who is asking for prayers for her friend Charlotte.

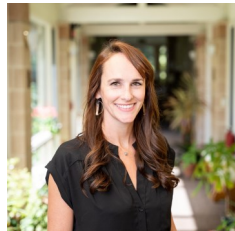
Charlotte was recently diagnosed with cancer and is also having some pulmonary issues – so let us pray that she gets the support and care she needs.

*Prayers for retired UCC pastor Steve Eriksen –receiving treatment at Fred Hutch, and we’ve been asked to keep him in our prayers.

Sunday Preacher Bio: Joy Studer

Joy Studer fell in love with the Godly Play program immediately after

her first Core Training and has implemented over 10 different programs since then. She believes that Godly Play is the support children need to know they are deeply loved just as they are. Joy became a Godly Play Missioner in 2018 and a Trainer in 2022.



Prior to all of her Godly Play work she started in ministry as Director of Children and Family Ministries connecting families to community and walking alongside them as they grow in faith. She is the Creative Director of Everyday Godly Play and her enthusiasm for the program is contagious! Joy Studer lives in the Pacific Northwest with her husband and 2 wonderful sons.

LISTENING PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

*RESPONSE TO GOD’S LOVE HYMN # 27

“From All That Dwell below the Skies

Isaac Watts, harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

From all that dwell below the skies

let the Creator’s praise arise;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer’s name be sung

through every land, by every tongue.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

WE PROCLAIM

THE WORD OF GOD IN SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13:18-19 Betty Spieth-Croll and Tim Croll

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 “Parable of the Mustard Seed”

Joy Studer

Preschool, kindergarten, and elementary children through the fifth grade may leave for time with Children’s Ministry after the sermon.

*HYMN # 540 “We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed”

Mary Bryan Matney and Sally Ann Morris

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

RESPONSE HYMN "Jesus Loves Me" vs. 2

Words rev. Amy Roon

Jesus loves me and will stay close beside me all the way.
Jesus taught me how to love even when I'm pushed and shoved.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

OFFERINGS FOR THE MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH

Betty Spieth-Croll and Tim Croll

If you are seated on the outside end of the pew, please find the white binder, sign in, and pass it down. You can also find a nametag there so we can greet you by name. As the pad is passed back, take note of those sitting near you so you can greet them by name. Looking for a secure way to donate online? Use the QR code at right. Thank you!



Our June Special Offering goes to Viva Farms. Viva Farms is a bilingual, comprehensive farm-business support nonprofit and an organic incubator farm operating in both Skagit and King counties. Its mission is to empower aspiring and historically underserved farmers by providing bilingual training in holistic organic farming practices and access to the essentials needed to build a thriving farm business. Viva Farms lowers the barriers for beginning farmers and creates opportunities for success. Learn more at vivafarms.org. Thank you for giving.

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"Down in My Heart (I've Got the Joy)" is by Vernie O. Fossett. Copyright © Bridge Building Music. Podcast and streamed with permission under Worship-CAST License #13008. All rights reserved.

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with Native Peoples” for just that purpose. They are led by a team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous facilitators. The next one is Sunday, June 23, 1-3 PM. Register at friendspeaceteams.org/trr-workshop-jun-2024.

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Bell: Angela Garner

Bearing the Light: The Miller Family

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

Chancel Choir

Preacher: Joy Studer

Clergy: Rev. Steve Jerbi Rev. Michael Ellick

Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries:

Margaret Irribarra Swanson

Liturgists: Betty Spieth-Croll and Tim Croll

Worship Tech Team: Jeff Coleman, Mary Sue Galvin, Doug Howlett,
Vince Santo Pietro, and Margaret Stine

Videographer: Anthony Lopez

The chancel flowers are given by George Vestal with Mwanzo, honoring the lives we’re changing and all the years our loving Madame Director, Loyce Ong’udi, and Board of Directors have helped make this happen!
Rev. Amy Roon is on study leave through June 22.

Joy Studer, Creative Co-Director, Everyday Godly Play

Joy Studer fell in love with the Godly Play program at her first core training and has implemented over 10 programs since then. She believes that Godly Play is the support children need to know they are deeply loved just as they are. Joy became a Godly Play missionary in 2018 and a trainer in 2022. She started in ministry as director of children and family ministries at Messiah Lutheran Church and Preschool in Vancouver, Washington, connecting families to community and walking alongside them as they grew in faith. Joy is the creative director of Everyday Godly Play, and her enthusiasm for the program is contagious! She lives in the Pacific Northwest with her husband and two sons.

OFFERTORY “Once a Farmer Went out Sowing”
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Benjamin Rogers, and David Nichols

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*DOXOLOGY MOVEMENT

*Praise God the source of life and birth
Praise God the one who came to earth
Praise God the Spirit holy flame
All glory honor to God’s name. Amen.*

WE RESPOND

*OUR COVENANT Betty Spieth-Croll and Tim Croll

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.

WE GO FORTH

*SENDING HYMN # 528 “You Are the Seed”

C. Gabaraín, trans. R. Gutiérrez-Achon, harm. S. Chávez-Melo

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE HYMN “Jesus Loves Me” vs. 3

Words rev. Amy Roan

Jesus loves me! Still today, walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

*BELL

POSTLUDE “The Power and the Glory”

Tom Birchwood

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.

The Bible Tells Me So

About this series

This worship series is centered on Bible stories and famous Bible verses. Each preacher is preaching based on scripture as we tell it aloud or in the children’s Bibles found in the pews. The text is adapted to tell what we think the story *means*, with less concern for precise translations. We are focusing on aspects of the story that show us how to love and respect one another, or that help us better understand who we are and who we’ve been. We hope the stories we’ve chosen will help you deepen your faith, your commitment to hospitality, your justice work, and your care for others and for yourself.

Spiritual Practice

Overview: *Learn a Bible story well enough to tell it in your own words. Tell it multiple times. See how it changes, what responses you get, and how those responses change you.*

Pick a Bible story that has meaning to you. It’s okay for that meaning to be “because I like this story.” If you know it well, tell it or write an outline of how you’d tell it before you look it up.

Find that story in a study Bible (the Oxford Annotated or Harper-Collins Study Bibles are recommended) or in our *Children’s Illustrated Bible*. Read the story, silently and aloud. Ask someone to read it to you, and notice what you hear. What images, verbs, and “bits” leap out at you?

Break down the story into the essentials. Do a sensory check. Are there tastes, smells, a sense of touch, sights, or sounds present in your imagination as you read or hear the story?

Practice telling the story in your own words by yourself and out loud to become more comfortable with it. Find an audience to listen. If you feel stuck about how to do this, reach out to a pastor. Most of all, keep telling that story until it feels comfortable.

Notice how your story changes. Go back and re-read your story sometimes.

Land Acknowledgment Action Step

We commit to learning about the Duwamish, other indigenous cultures, and the historical and ongoing oppression of indigenous peoples. We strive to nurture our relationship with indigenous peoples, especially our neighbors, by joining their efforts to work for social justice and to care for this land.

Have you wondered how to nurture your relationship with Indigenous peoples? The Friends Peace Teams offers interactive online workshops called “Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship