

May 2015

## UNITED CHURCH IN UNIVERSITY PLACE NEWSLETTER

*UNITED IN LOVE*

*UNITED TO SERVE*

A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH &  
AN LGBTQIA WELCOMING CONGREGATION



### Trivia Night Fundraiser! THURSDAY, MAY 7 from 6 to 7:30 pm 621 Tacoma Ave S, Tacoma Help feed those in need

Dine on heavy appetizers, donate to help the Pantry feed those in need – and have a blast in our **battle of the brains**. Winning team gets \$500 and unlimited bragging rights!  
(Second place receives \$250 and limited bragging rights.)  
UCUP Team Leader is Ruth Cannon

### Celebrate Sunday May 10th as a *"Teacup Tribute to Mother's Day"*



Do you have a special cup & saucer or little teapot that belonged to your mother or grandmother? Possibly you have one of your own.

Please plan to bring one of these keepsakes to the church service on Mother's Day. There will be several display tables set up with neat little story cards for you to label and identify your mementos. Years ago we celebrated with a Mother~Daughter Tea each spring, so this will be a nice way to remember those events and provide a way to honor our Moms.

The hospitality table will be loaded with lovely tea biscuits, sweets and treats for you to enjoy. Perhaps, if you are all willing, we may ask someone to lead us in that rousing pantomime of

"I'm a Little Teapot."  
Happy Spring!



### Volunteering for the US Open

Join Pastor Cathy in volunteering to offer hospitality to guests at the US Open. Each volunteer would work three 8-hour shifts between June 15-21, plus an orientation meeting (date TBD). For every volunteer that works these 24 hours, a donation will be made to the church (@ \$10 an hour/\$240 total). It is a great opportunity for outreach to our local community. Talk to Pastor Cathy or Lynne in the office to get signed up.



### *Strawberry Festival is Back!*

After a 3 year hiatus, the annual Strawberry Festival will be hosted by the choir this June. This event has typically taken place on Father's Day, or the Sunday prior, at 4p.m. This year's date still needs to be settled, but most likely would be either June 14 or 21 at 4 p.m. Fresh Puyallup Valley strawberries and musical entertainment.

Stay tuned for exact time and date!

## *Pastor Cathy's Reflection*



It's a small world after all. I attended my first UCC annual meeting this past weekend. I anticipated knowing only a handful of people, including our UCUP representatives, Neil and Norma Rader. What a delight to discover even more connections than I could have imagined when I stepped through the doors of the Spokane Convention Center - two United Methodist clergy serving UCC churches in retirement, five friends from seminary days now in various ministry settings, and a half a dozen other clergy colleagues whom I have known in other settings, including two of your previous pastors, Rev. Dee Eisenhower and Rev. Jan Van Pelt. What a joy to pass legislation, worship, and connect with the good people of the UCC.

When I returned to worship this past Sunday, another connection emerged. After our hands-on blessing of release and farewell to Rev. Larry Baker, I went to greet a few new guests to worship, friends of mine who happened to stop in and check us out. It turns out they knew Larry in the late 1960's when they all attended the same church on Capital Hill in Seattle. What a great day for them to drop into our worship service. A coincidence or a God-incidence? It's a small world after all, and you never know when God will grace your presence with a gift from the past, or a new connection to be made in the present moment. May our eyes be opened to these moments of grace, and God-speed to Larry as you make your transition into this new chapter.

Our prayers go out to the people of Nepal. You can support the relief by giving to one of these two denominational offerings. Donations can be made out to UCUP with UMCOR Advance # 982450 in the memo, or through UCC Disaster Ministries/Nepal. To give online visit [umcor.org](http://umcor.org) or [https://unitedchurchofchrist.nationbuilder.com/international\\_emergency\\_relief\\_fund](https://unitedchurchofchrist.nationbuilder.com/international_emergency_relief_fund).



## *Prez Perspectives*



Spring appears to have arrived early bringing with it a magnificent display of the Creator's bounty. The Forsythia was first, along with early Daffodils, followed by the incredible cherry and flowering plum trees lining our streets with rich color. It all made a perfect setting for Neva's discourse on science and faith and reinforcing God's creative handiworks. Neva's God is one I can certainly relate too: a God of creativity, imagination, abundance, richness and care.

We've also seen new beginnings in Don Morgan's wedding to Sun Huff, as well as graceful departures when we came together to celebrate the life of Gunneld Bjarke Willets. As usual, our church family came together to meet, greet, set up and tear down. But it seems we have a new church elf in Rev. Cathy, as Joyce reported that much of the preparation for the Memorial was done when she got to church.

It is glorious to see many new faces in the pews as people come to check us out. Please greet these unfamiliar or vaguely familiar faces on Sundays and extend the welcome we are famous for before you run off into the glory of Northwest Spring.

Don't forget to pray for those in need of comfort, strength, healing, support and encouragement. We thank Sue Burgoyne for playing the organ & piano while Jeff took a much needed break. Support one another and give thanks for the abundance of love we have to share.



## CONGREGATIONAL CARE CLUSTER

Submitted by Pat Mail



### Do You Enjoy Praying For People???

The UCUP Prayer Chain is an email list of people who enjoying praying for our church family and friends and larger issues. As we get requests, a list of those needing prayer goes out to the "chain". If you enjoying lifting up others, please let Pat Mail know you'd like to be added to the list and provide an email. Some prayers are confidential requests which we focus on but don't discuss, while other prayers may be widely shared. This is an activity of Congregational Care which believes that prayer is important and prayer works!



## PEACE AND JUSTICE CLUSTER

Although school is coming to a close for summer break,, it is not too early to be thinking about the needs of young children preparing for the new school year. We will again be collecting **school supplies** for children in the Family Housing Network (formerly Phoenix Housing Network). Be on the lookout for special sales! We will be collecting July to Mid-August. More information next month. Thanks for your help.



Submitted by Joan Walston

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Many thanks to everyone who made a donation to **One Great Hour of Sharing!** We collected a total of \$7,477. The United Church of Christ's 2014 annual report places us in the top 100 churches based on per capita giving in 2013. For a small congregation, we make a big difference. Through your giving, you are changing lives in some of the most chaotic and disrupted situations in our world. Thank you!

The **Faith Action Network's** Puget Sound area spring summit will be held in Seattle on Sunday, June 7, First AME Church, 3:00-5:00 PM. Mark your calendar and join others from our church who advocate for social justice through our political system.

Submitted by Dorothy McCuiston

**FAITH ACTION NETWORK**  
A Partnership for the Common Good



### My Sister's Pantry Volunteer Day May 23rd 10am to Noon

UCUP will be part of the volunteer crew that packs food boxes, cooks and serves lunch, hands out fresh fruits and veggies, and helps clients find what they need from the clothing closet.

If these jobs sound interesting to you, please add your name to the sign up sheet that will be in the narthex. My Sisters Pantry is located in the lower floor of 1st United Methodist Church, 621 Tacoma Ave. just north of the County City Building.

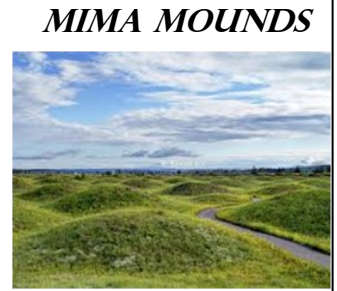
Submitted by Ruth Cannon



## REENING GROUP

Submitted by Jim Fohrman

Our Greening Group is buzzing in to say, "It was great to celebrate Earth Day, (April 22nd) on Sunday, April 26th when we led the service."



The rain barrel has been coming in handy. We have used it to water the walkway planters and all the indoor plants.!

We would like to invite you to join us in celebrating Prairie Appreciation Day on Saturday, May 9th. We will meet in the church parking lot at 10:00 am and carpool to the Glacial Heritage Preserve and the mysterious Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve to celebrate the 20th annual Prairie Appreciation Day. Glacial heritage is just south of Olympia near Littlerock. There will be activities for everyone in the family. Please stay tuned for more information.



## FAITH AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH CLUSTER

Submitted by Ellen Davis

### ITS TIME FOR CHURCH CAMP!

United Church in University Place has a long tradition of supporting individual and family church camp participation, by providing camp scholarships! And 2015 has quite a line up of great opportunities.

Some camps are for a few days, some for a whole week. Some are for elementary school children, some for teens, some for whole families. There is also a Young Adult Camp for folks 19-35 from June 19-21 at Pilgrim Firs and the UCUP Campership can cover almost all of the registration! Indianola is in the Puget Sound, Lazy F is west of Ellensburg, Ocean Park is near the Pacific Ocean, and Twinlow is in northern Idaho, Pilgrim Firs is outside of Port Orchard and the gem, N-Sid-Sen is on Lake Coeur d'Alene! You should go look at the websites (UMC) [www.pnwcamps.org](http://www.pnwcamps.org) and (UCC) [www.pncucc.org](http://www.pncucc.org) or check out the flyers in the narthex. There are early bird specials for early registration! Most importantly, pick up a Campership application at the table outside of the sanctuary and leave it with Lynne in the office and the Faith and Spiritual Growth Cluster will get back to you in a jiffy! For more information, you can also call Ellen at 566-0944.



### Summer at UCUP?

**Whether you go to camp or not,  
there will be a LOT going on right here at United Church this summer!  
So find your flip flops now!**

Summer Sunday School starts **Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**. Using last years' plan, we will have a VOLUNTEER TEACHER sign up sheet at the round table for volunteers to select ONE SUMMER SUNDAY to teach a multiage group ages 4-13 years (there is still nursery school too). There is a drawer labeled "Summer Sundays" in the library and folders with a whole Sunday School lesson, and volunteers can just pick whichever lesson that strikes them. Sign up on the sheet and write down the title of the lesson you have selected. If you read over the lesson and want to do an activity or craft, contact Lynne in the office, Ellen Davis or Rosemary Jones, to help you find supplies! The FSG or SPR will contact you to complete our Safe Sanctuary paperwork.



## *Easter Gratitude*

Submitted by Pastor Cathy



Many hands came together to make Easter a great celebration at UCUP. We lift prayers of gratitude for Elizabeth Scherman for placing an Easter ad in the newspaper; Because of her efforts and our reader board, 44 people were in attendance for the sunrise service, over 25 were new to our church; For Rosemary Jones & Kris Schrantz for set-up on Maundy Thursday, filling Easter baskets, and decorating the cross for Easter; for Jim Cash & Roger King for setting up chairs for our Sunrise service; for Don Thompson, Don Morgan & Roger Martin for music for our Easter Sunrise Service; for Linda Vanderbilt, our Sunrise liturgist; for Judy Thierry, our Easter sunrise fire starter; for Marilyn Thompson, Angie Wolle, and Jim Cash for springing into action when people kept on coming across the orchard for our Sunrise service; for Joyce Demarest for set-up and clean-up on Maundy Thursday and hospitality for sunrise; for Kathy Munn, Sharon Britcher, and Carol Shogreen for hospitality and clean-up for our Easter Worship service; for Nancy Moffett our paramenteer extraordinaire; for Jeff Andersen and the choir for glorious Easter music; for Ellen Davis for hiding Easter baskets throughout the church for our kids to find; and for many other behind the scenes hands. Christ is Risen! Alleluia!



## *Our Easter and Easter Sunrise Service Pics*





# JOYS AND CONCERNS

Submitted by Kathryn Munn



We are so delighted for Don Morgan and Sun Huff who were recently married!

We give thanks for the life of Gunneld Willits, one of our charter members, and for a beautiful memorial service.



Congratulations to Kyli Gillard, first of our spring graduates, as she receives her degree from Highpoint College. And what an adventure for Danielle Dimmerman as she travels to Disneyland with her high school band. Two candles on her cake for Emma Berry!

We'll be missing Harry and Betty Garrison for two months--but they are enjoying the sunshine in Hawaii. Robert Brown recently sang with Liz Gregg's choir when he visited her church in Hawaii. And Ruth Cannon will be attending the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Noah, in Boston.

On Sunday we said Goodbye to Larry Baker as he moves to Olympia--we're glad he won't be really far away!



We join in prayers of healing for Brooks, Tanya and Joe's son who recently had lung surgery, for Nels Bjarke after eye surgery, and Dorothy Burkhart who has had a hip replacement. And we continue to hold the Young family in our hearts.

## A LOOK AHEAD

**May 7th from 6pm-7:30pm—My Sister's Panty Fund Raising Dinner**

FEED THE HUNGRY - Join us for the My Sister's Pantry Fund Raising Dinner. (pg.1)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY 2015

1 Dorothy Burkhart  
6 Nancy Rickert  
9 Gail Simpson  
12 Wes Davis  
13 Sam(antha) Burhop  
14 Levi Vanderbilt  
15 Lynne Jenks-Dudschus  
22 Donna Shoe  
24 Truman Bjarke (13)  
27 Kathi Hiyane-Brown  
28 Dan Morgan  
30 Nancy Davis



**May 9th at 10am—Prairie Appreciation Day**

A trip to Mima Mounds and the Glacial Heritage Preserve (pg.4)

**May 10th—"Teacup Tribute to Mother's Day"**

Bring your favorite teacup, teapot OR both! (pg.1)

**May 23rd from 10am to noon—My Sister's Pantry Volunteer Day**  
(pg.3)

**May 24th—Pentecost**

**May 25th—Memorial Day**

**June 7th 3-5pm—FAN Spring Summit** (pg.3)

**June 14th—Summer Sunday School begins** (pg.4)

**June 15—21st US Open Golf Championship**

**June 25-27th—UMC Annual Conference**





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## Newsletter

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May 1, 2015

### United Church In University Place

3912 Grandview Dr W  
University Place, WA  
98466



## Weekly

### Sundays

10am Worship Service  
With Pastor Cathy  
10:15am Children's Sunday  
School (4yrs & up)

### Wednesdays

Noon-2pm Brown Baggers  
Luncheon & Bible Study Group  
(Sept—May)

6-7:30pm Blue Heron Zen  
Meditation Community  
Gathering

### Thursdays

7:15pm Choir Practice  
(Sept—May)

## Monthly

### 1st Sunday of the month

Communion during worship

2:30pm Worship Service at  
Rainier Rehabilitation in Puyallup

### 1st Tuesday of the month

1pm Alzheimer's Support Grp.

### 3rd Friday of the month

6:30pm PB & Jam  
Bring your instruments!

### 4th Sunday of the month

11:45am 4th Sunday Forum

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**United in Love**

**United to Serve**

No matter who you are,  
or where you are on life's journey, you're  
welcome here.

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