

June 2015

United Church in University Place Newsletter

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

A United Church of Christ, a United Methodist Church &
an LGBTQIA welcoming Congregation



The Strawberry Festival is Back!

After a 4 year hiatus, the annual Strawberry Festival will be hosted by the choir on **June 14th at 5:30p.m.**

Fresh Puyallup Valley strawberries and musical entertainment by members of our very talented choir!



Closing of Epworth LeSourd United Methodist Church June 14th 4:00 p.m.

Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church, located at 710 S. Anderson St. in Tacoma was dedicated on July 21, 1889. The beautiful stained-glass windows were dedicated to our very own Jenny & Emily Hartley's Great grandparents Henry & Jane Ann Hartley, and great aunt Jane Campion.

On June 14th, they will be closing their doors to allow this place of worship to become a new place for a new time and a new thing, in a much different world from when the church first started.

Join Pastor Cathy and others from UCUP as we celebrate their ministry, offer a prayer of thanksgiving, and mourn with those who will be losing their church as they know it.

My Sister's Pantry

My Sister's Pantry raised over **\$27,000** for their annual fundraiser. Many thanks to Ruth Cannon, Jim Cash, Deb Howard, Pat Mail, Pastor Cathy, and Chris Walters for participating in Trivia Night - we didn't take first prize, but didn't come in last either!



Expand Your Church Family

We often have new faces in church on Sunday, so if you see a new face, introduce yourself and welcome them into our family!



JARS (of change) for Jamaa Letu

Help us collect change to support the boys and girls at Jamaa Letu Orphanages in Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo. There are "jar wrappers" on the table in the front entry way. Pick yours up the next time you come to church, take it home and wrap it around a jar, and fill it up with change. Bring it back by June 21st so we can count up the change and take to Annual Conference for the UMC.

Pastor Cathy's Reflection



As we enter the month of June, I am reflecting on the past nine months with you all. It has gone by quickly, and yet, it feels as if I have been here for a much longer time. I find myself grateful to be serving with you and among you, watching how you all step up in different ways to make our church and community a better place, and witnessing how deeply you care for one another.

The month of June looks a bit full for me with a trip to Washington D.C., a couple of baptisms, witnessing the dissolution of a historic church Epworth-Lesourd, celebrating with our talented Choir for the ever-popular Strawberry Festival, volunteering with the US Open, and traveling to the Tri-Cities for the UMC Annual Conference. It will be busy for many of you as well with various celebrations, travel plans, and transitions for a few folks. In the midst of whatever is happening in your life, I encourage you to make worship a priority this month. There are some great worship moments in store for June.

June 7th - Rev. Traci Drake will be in the pulpit again - back by popular demand. Many of you will recall that Traci stepped in as interim preacher last summer, and was well received. As I tour around the D.C. area, Traci will lead you in worship and celebrating Holy Communion.

June 14th - We celebrate a baptism, and recognize our graduates AND our Sunday School Teachers and assistants. We will kick off a three-part sermon series on three different ways to experience and understand grace - developed by John Wesley (the inadvertent founder of Methodism). This first Sunday we will explore Prevenient Grace, the sense that God has desired a relationship with us from the very beginning. There may even be a short skit taken from the cartoon strip Dennis the Menace with his friend Joey and Mrs. Wilson. It's definitely not a Sunday to be missed.

June 21st - Another baptism is being planned for this day, and we move from God's invitation to be in a relationship to responding back to God with our YES in the understanding of Justifying Grace. We will have a moment to honor dads and the father figures in our lives.

June 28th - We finish off the month by moving onto perfection through the theological understanding of Sanctifying Grace.

How are you experiencing the grace of God in your life these days? Is there a fleeting moment where you have glimpsed God's holy presence with you? Are you searching for that elusive sense of being deeply connected and grounded in the love of God?

Join in the community of faith as we explore these topics and attempt to bravely share how God is working in our lives. See you in church.



Prez Perspectives

Our reader board out by the round-about has been getting noticed by commuters who drive by it. Pat Mail has received many positive comments from people living in her apartment who regularly drive Grandview. Special thanks to Barbara Kearley for the funny and pithy observations on life and faith. A huge thank you to Rev. Cathy and the 13 other UCUPers who showed up on a somewhat dreary Saturday to staff My Sister's Pantry. We volunteer 2-3 times a year and it always leaves us feeling good to help out the Pantry guests.

Continued.....

.....Continued

Attendance in church has been fairly consistent, much to Cathy's amazement. We may experience a reduction in bodies in the pews come summer, but even if you are vacationing, taking children to college, or going forth to meet with family, don't forget your pledges to keep our lights on and Lynne answering the phone. And thanks to those who are volunteering to work the US Open for the Security Contractor, who will be paying UCUP for our labor. We may not be able to park people in our lot, but we can volunteer to work with the funds going to UCUP. God does indeed move in mysterious ways.

On our calendar for the summer will be the Strawberry Festival (funds for the Choir), another Camp Lite sing-along and marshmallow roast, our annual Blessings of the Animals in August, and who knows what other fun events. We like to come together to eat and share stories. If you missed Kathleen Kenna's workshop on Gratitude Journaling, you missed some thoughtful guidance on seeking peace for yourself by thinking of good things in your life and other people's lives.

In early July, there will be a report from both our UCC and UMC Annual Conference attendees to explain the why and what about church conferences and report back to the congregation. Yes, we come together to worship, reinforce our faith journey, and pray for one another, but there is also an administrative and political side to denominations. Conferences address the how and what of keeping denominations up and running. So satisfy your curiosity on July 12.

Continue to hold one another up in prayer as we and our families, friends, neighbors and co-workers struggle with the vicissitudes of life. Prayer is powerful and Prayer Works! God bless our church family.



Celebrating Pentecost

Submitted by Pat Mail

Our sanctuary was filled with flames of red, yellow and orange, and even the Sunday School children returned with "flaming" brands to brighten our day. Many remembered to wear red, but we had all manner of fire represented, from brown (wood), to gray and black (ashes). Norma Rader and Sharon Britcher performed sacred dance illustrating being filled with the spirit. And because Pentecost is also often described as "the breath of God" or wind, we were treated to absolutely beautiful flute solos and accompaniment by Roxanne Hreha - the Breath of God was beautiful and melodious (thanks, Jeff, for bringing us another great musician). Then there was the VERY GREEN cake to celebrate Cecelia Schilling's graduation - and what joy to have her brother Peter here to celebrate with her. Cecelia is headed off to Goucher College outside Baltimore (and don't miss her art work in the Orchard View Room). Roger King supplied us with red poppies in honor of veterans lost in the wars, and we spoke the names of those lost to war and those whom we know are serving now - a meaningful tribute in the midst of our celebrations. Thanks to all who made this such a meaningful celebration.





UCUP AT THE PANTRY

Submitted by Pat Mail

Fourteen (!!) UCUPers arrived at My Sister's Pantry on May 23rd, to help distribute groceries, fresh food, and beverages. The brunch served was a quiche with everything in it, homemade scones, and fresh watermelon. Several of us were lucky enough to sample the food served to the Pantry's guests. And if you are interested, mark your calendars for the third Monday in June when again the pantry needs our help. If you are able to provide person-power, report in at 4:30 PM at the pantry and work until 6:30. The Pantry staff would be most appreciative.



So, special thanks to the following hard workers at UCUP's opportunity to serve at the Pantry: Sharon Britcher, Ruth Cannon, Jim Cash, Wes Davis, Joyce Demarest, Cathy Dimmerman, Ardie Herbel, Lou & Margie Lehmann, Pat Mail, Judith Thierry, Linda Vanderbilt, Joann Walston, and for the first time, the Rev. Cathy Law! Thank you everyone for your taking time, hard work, and enthusiasm in helping those less fortunate.



Remember to mark your calendar for **Monday June 15th at 4:30 PM** at the Pantry -- if you can help and are not working the US Open.



PEACE AND JUSTICE CLUSTER

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

Faith Action Network

Submitted by Robert Brown

As one of our church's Faith Action Network's liaisons, I remind you that our state representatives/senators are still in session, although now it's special. They have many things to work out with regard to the budget. The more they hear that the budget is a moral document and that as persons of faith we expect them to act morally, the more likely a good budget could result.

You can check with Faith Action Network by using their website at fanwa.org, to find out the issues we (they) are most interested in. I personally would love them to hear over and over again that we need a more progressive taxation system, which could mean that we as a state would have more means to help more people and important programs.



FAITH AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH CLUSTER

Submitted by Ellen Davis

Sunday School May Bible verses (RSV)



The Sunday school class has started memorizing bible verses! Here are the 5 verses for the 5 Sundays.

They all start with "Jesus said". On June 7th, we will have a RECITE-ALL and whoever memorized the most gets the big candy bar!

Matthew 22:37 (You shall love the Lord with all your heart, soul and mind.....)

John 15: 12 (Love one another as I have loved you)

Matthew 6: 9-13 (the Lord 's Prayer)

Matthew 6:33 (seek ye first.....)

John 10:10 (I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly).

Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School starts **Sunday, June 14th**. Using last years' plan, there is a VOLUNTEER TEACHER sign up sheet in the church entry 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 Sunday School lessons to choose from. Volunteers can 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.

It Is 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 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 and (UCC) 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!



FAITH AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH CLUSTER (CONT)

Submitted by Ellen Davis

Oh, the places you will go.....Graduation Celebration Sunday!

On June 14th, we will honor our graduates and their families! We are so excited for Cecilia Schilling and the Giddings-Schilling family, Brooke Taylor and the Taylor/Haner family, and Kyli Gillard and the Gillard family.



We will acknowledge them briefly during the worship service and Fellowship Time will honor them. If you have a loved one who graduated from high school, college or beyond, we would like to recognize their achievements as well, please send an email to Ellen at wesellen-davis@msn.com by June 12 (with the spelling of the name, location, and degree/diploma).

Oh the places you will go.....Congratulations!



MISCELLANEOUS

Artwork in the Orchard View Room

Be sure you take time to look at two new exhibits of artwork on display in the Orchard View Room.



The first is **Cecelia Schilling**, in honor of her high school graduation, she is showing works from her senior exhibit at Charles Wright Academy. Also included are a few earlier artworks as she developed into the artist she is today. We know Cecelia will continue to grow as an artist next year at Goucher College, Maryland. Congratulations Cecelia!

The second exhibit is **Dorothy McCuiston's** 2006 series called "Disappearing Habitat". She created these pieces in response to the creation of the Chambers Bay Golf course. With the U.S. Open Golf tournament taking place this month, she thought this was an appropriate time to exhibit these pieces. She hopes you will take a minute to think about how humans develop land--in the case of the golf course from an industrial site to a recreational one.

Special Thanks to our US Open Volunteers

Many thanks in advance to **Robert Brown, Peter Burhop, Pat Mail, Nancy Moffett, Pastor Cathy, and Angela Wolle** who have volunteered to work 24+ hours at the US Open. Not only will they be greeting folks, they will be netting over \$1400 for the church!

Our Reader Board will be sporting some fun catchy sayings like: "Are you on par with God", "Get your hol-y in one", "Pray with Par", "Don't Tee off God - worship with us on Sunday". These are just a few sayings we came up with at our last Worship & Adornment meeting. If you come up with any others, send them in.



Congratulations Laura Giddings

Laura Giddings is the L'Arche Tahoma Hope's new Community Leader/Executive Director





PNC-UCC 2015 ANNUAL MEETING "Spring Forth"

One of the great things about conference annual meetings is the hugs from friends, some of which you haven't seen in the past year. And of course, there is meeting new friends, some of which you will remain close to for years. That is exactly what happens every week right here at UCUP.

An interesting change in programming this year involved workshops. Instead of going to one 1 ½ hr workshop each day, we had a list of eleven choices each day, from which to pick 3 – each of which lasted 20 minutes with 15 minutes in between. Thus we were exposed to six intense learning & sharing opportunities.

Two of the mini workshops Neil attended had to do with the camps. The first one, Future Capital Campaigns, had to do with exciting plans for improving the facilities at both of our camps.

The second one, 20 Minutes of Camp, gave us a chance to experience the fun and spirit of attending camp. We were also told that the Board had that morning voted to hire Wade Zick as the new Manager of Pilgrim Fir. He is currently Associate Conference Minister and Camp Director of the Minnesota Conference & is the former Manager of our camp N-Sid-Sen. He will start in August. Randy and Linda Crow were also in that workshop. When they heard the name, they both said "WOW!" with grins a mile wide. They had done some work nationally with Wade and said he would be great.

Business issues included passing a budget, a nominations slate of officers and committee personnel, a Bylaw change & 2 resolutions passed on to Synod (National) for action. Probably the soul of the weekend came from the Rev. Quinn Caldwell as our keynote speaker. He also preached at the Sunday worship service. He is a Pastor and teacher at Plymouth Congregational UCC in Syracuse NY, as well as serving on several national church groups. Quinn is an author and co-author of several important works for the U.C.C. Following the theme of Spring Forth, Quinn called for Engaged Discipleship. After the Crucifixion, Jesus came back to bring new life to his followers and then He left again. He ascended because He had to get out of the way. Would the church even exist if he had stayed on earth?

At a forum in July, you will have the opportunity to hear how we serve the UCC and UMC Conferences, and through them, the national church. And then, how the 2 national churches serve us through our two Conferences.

Y'ALL COME!!

Neil & Norma Rader



CONVO

One of our own youth, Danielle Dimmerman, participated in CONVO at UPS in Tacoma over Memorial Day Weekend. Convo is a PNW event for UMC youth, and celebrated its 40th annual weekend. Ask Danielle about her experience of CONVO and how it was to participate on the Worship Team.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Submitted by Sharon Britcher

May and June--Celebrations

For Pentecost on May 24th, we celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit unto Jesus Disciples those 50 days after Easter with over 90 red geraniums and our church family wearing red, orange and yellow.

On Mother's Day, it was a pleasure to hear the stories about the teapots and teacups of our mothers and grandmothers during fellowship time.

We are also celebrating our church school children's cause, Pennies for Africa, supporting them with change filled jars.

Congratulations to our high school graduates, Cecelia Schilling from Charles Wright Academy, Brooke Taylor from Curtis High School and Kyli Gillard from High Point University in High Point, North Carolina. Our very best wishes for their futures.

Thankfulness for recoveries from illness and surgeries: Tanya and Joe's son Brooks, and A.J.'s friend recovering. Jim Fohrman's father with recurring hospital stays, and Roger Martin's family in California with health concerns.

Our concern and prayers for our military serving around the world today and special honors on Memorial Day for those who have died in all of America's wars and their families.

Please come join us on June 21st as we celebrate Father's Day and the first day of summer!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY June 2015

- 1 Ruth Cannon
- 3 Alta Mae Westgaard
- 6 Marilyn Buck
- 6 Aiden Cadle - 12yrs
- 8 Wesley Berry - 5yrs
- 10 Brooke Taylor - 18yrs
- 10 Bev Tschimperle
- 14 Mary Jones
- 18 Shirley Paulson
- 21 Kristoffer Bjarke - 19yrs
- 22 Fran Cash
- 22 Don Morgan
- 24 Laura Giddings



A Look Ahead

June 7th—FAN Spring Summit 3-5pm

June 11th—Final Choir Practice 7:15pm

June 14th—Celebrating our Graduates

Strawberry Festival at 5:30pm

Closing of Epworth LeSourd UMC at 4pm

Summer Sunday School Begins

June 15th—My Sisters Pantry Volunteer 4:30-6:30pm

US Open Golf Championship

June 21st—Father's day

June 25-27th—UMC Annual Conference

Thank You Janet for the beautiful

**display of teacups and teapots for
our Mother's Day
Celebration!**



sat

June

Newsletter

Vol. 33, No. 6
June 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

Thursdays

7:15pm Choir Practice
(Sept—May)

**United in Love
United to Serve**

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.

2nd Saturday of the month

9am—Noon Blue Heron Zen
Meditation Community
Retreat

3rd Friday of the month

6:30pm PB & Jam
Bring your instruments!

4th Sunday of the month

11:45am 4th Sunday Forum

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

SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO ABOVE ADDRESS

POSTMASTER:

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
UNITED CHURCH IN UNIVERSITY PLACE
3912 GRANDVIEW DR. W
UNIVERSITY PLACE WA 98466

Periodicals
Postage Paid at
Tacoma WA 98413