

# July 2017

## 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

Tacoma Pride is on July 8th ~ 12:00 pm–5:00 pm

UCUP will help support a booth with other United Methodist Churches in the Greater Tacoma area. We need lots of homemade cookies to hand out. Bring your cookies by the church by Friday, July 7th. If you can help with your presence at the booth talk to Pastor Cathy. Venue Display will be on Pacific Avenue between 7th & 9th streets.

### Family Housing Network

Summer is arriving and yet FHN is planning for back to school supplies. Manni Valenezuela, a senior college student studying theology and social work at George Fox University in Portland Oregon, will coordinate this DRIVE through the summer.

**Kevin Gavalis, BA, Shelter Program Coordinator, Family Housing Network/CCS**

### Dedication of "Nels' Bells"

We have purchased a three octave set of Schulmerich handbells from a church that closed this year. The bells played once during Lent and again on June 11th when we dedicated them in loving memory of Nels Bjarke.



#### Bell Choir ringers

Don Morgan, Diane Small, Ben Small, Cathi Cline, Neva Laurie Berry, Robert Brown, Janet Leonard, Nancy Moffett, & Rosemary Jones.

### 4th Sunday Forum on July 23rd

Peace and Justice Committee will welcome our members Christine Crossley, Dawn Seymour and Kathleen Kenna as they lead a discussion on social and human services in Tacoma, Pierce County. Christine and Dawn work with Catholic Community Services in Seattle and Tacoma respectively and Kathleen Kenna works with veterans and families.



## ***From The Pastor***

The past two weeks have been filled with emotion and tears - how does one put words to deep emotions for tears of wonder, tears of sadness, tears of compassion? Does one ponder in one's heart for safe-keeping or risk committing inadequate words in a newsletter article for all to read?

Tears of joy: I have been attending Annual Conference in the PNW for the past 20 years - 15 of them as a pastor. One of the people who supported my journey into ordained ministry was installed as the Bishop of the Greater Northwest at the 144th session of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference on June 14th. Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky introduced the theme of the conference in a shared session with Oregon-Idaho, "Do This and You Will Live" by starting with a breath prayer: "Love, Live...Live, Love". Later, my clergy colleague Rev. Elizabeth Ingram Schindler offered these poignant words:

"Last night was the installation service for Bishop Elaine Stanovsky. I was completely unprepared for how emotional I felt during the service. I cried all through the promises; and through much of her Episcopal address. I felt the power and weight of what she is called to do: to be pastor and servant, to hold the body of Christ in unity, to be "a means of reconciliation and healing." I felt overwhelmed at the thought that a person - even with God's help - could ever make such promises. I cried for the weight of it all: the significance, the responsibility. But I also cried tears of joy: for every feminine pronoun in the service, knowing that, at one time, they all said "he" or "him," and had to be changed. To see the stole placed on a woman's body, to see her hand holding the shepherd's staff, was an encouragement that quenched my spirit, which was far more parched than I had realized. I cried tears of awe for the power God has to change a world that would appear, in so many ways, at so many times, doomed to catastrophe and failure, to repeating the same mistakes. I cried tears of wonder, admiration, reverence, and even disbelief at the power of God - the imagination of God - to use people like us, someone like me, to bring life. It is too much for words, but the tears spoke last night - those "weak," "feminine," emotional, vulnerable tears - and I pray that they keep on speaking."

Bishop Elaine tearfully responded to this testimony: "We lose track of the path that we walk to get to where we are. Words from a song we sang: *I'll build an altar of the stones I have found here. I'll lay them down here, rough as they are. That's who we are. We are the rough stones that God has put into the world to bear witness to what we can be, to what God would have us be. It's a humbling privilege to live into that reality. Not to pretend that we are anything but those rough stones.*"

Tears of pride: Watching our very own Nancy Tam Davis step up as Lay Leader of the Conference, and together with the Lay Leader of Oregon-Idaho, deliver significant portions of our shared schedule.

Tears of sadness and grief: During our worship on June 25th we offered a blessing of release as Wes & Ellen Davis make their way to Virginia to be closer to family. Tears streamed down my face as Jeff Andersen sang "Friends are friends forever - it's hard to let you go, but in the Father's hands we know, that a lifetime's not too long to live as friends." After worship, we celebrated them with words of affirmation and love. We will miss you, Wes & Ellen, and we send you with our blessing, our love.

And we continue to be the church, opening our hearts to welcome each other and those who are yet to come. And with the grace of God, the church never quits. It changes. It begins again.

## Bible Presentation

On Sunday, June 18, Jimmy Bodie-Palamidy & Soren Fohrman received a Bible from the church. Congratulations Soren & Jimmy! And many thanks to their Sunday School teachers over the years: Win Bjarke, Ellen Davis & Rosemary Jones.



The University Place Chapter of **Days for Girls** currently uses our church once a month to put together menstrual hygiene kits - "cutting cloth, sewing serge, sort, iron". If you would like to offer your time, talent and treasure meet in the Orchard Room Saturday, July 8th from 10 AM to 2 PM. Contact Teri Mattsen at (253) 302-6242 or Judy Thierry at (240) 994-8572 to RSVP.

## Fabric Needed for Days for Girls Kits

Do you have fabric leftover from sewing projects for which you have no future plans? The University Place chapter of Days for Girls needs fabric to make the menstrual kits for girls around the world. Global feedback informs the fabric guidelines for DfG kits so they work well culturally, physically and durably. These are the guidelines:



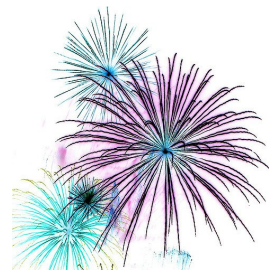
- New 100% woven cotton or cotton/poly--NO KNITS.
- Botanical, geometric, batik etc. prints are best. Darker colors are better than white and light colors because they hide stains more easily.
- No prints with faces or eyes (fish, animals, people etc.).
- No prints with insects or snakes (butterflies and ladybugs without face/eyes OK).
- No camouflage/guns/hunting themed prints.
- No solid saffron yellow fabric (the color of Monk's robes), although yellow in a pattern is OK.
- No fabric with suggestive words.
- No patterns with cartoons, TV or Pop culture images, national flags, or words.

Any fabric a minimum of 9" x 9" square can be used. If you want to take it one step further, wash and iron the fabric before you donate it and include a note that it's ready to sew. Leave your donated fabric in the Days for Girls box in the coat closet area. For more information about Days for Girls, visit <https://www.daysforgirls.org>.





# Joys & Concerns



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL, just the words should bring a smile to your face, what an enjoyable event – thanks to Jeff and the Choir. Can't wait for your return in September. Music has always been great at United Church and the Hand Bell Choir (Pastor Cathy directing) is a great addition.

Good News: Win Bjarke is home after 3 weeks in UP Care following a fall. Keep her in your prayers as she continues to heal...Helen Engle and Susan Kelly's mother, both had brief hospital stays recently...Michael Marcoe with his continued health problems. Mildred Seale, she is home, but has been in hospice care since last September and recently has become very weak. Prayer's for a peaceful passing.



**CANNED TUNA IS THE ITEM OF THE MONTH FOR MY SISTER'S PANTRY**



## Congratulations Graduate Kathleen!

Elizabeth Scherman surprised Kathleen Kenna with a few folks from UCUP to celebrate her graduation from North Central University with her Masters in Family Therapy/Military Families.



## Pentecost June 4, 2017



**July 2017**



3 Michael Marcoe  
 7 Carol Shogreen  
 11 Jeremiah Bodie  
 12 Chris Flint  
 Anwen Young 10yrs

19 Erik Bjarke  
 Robert Flint  
 20 Dawn Bjarke  
 25 Betty Smith  
 30 Aaron Young  
 31 Bob Rudolph

## **“Y’all come visit!”**

The Davis' are moving back home to Charlottesville VA after 19 years in the Pacific Northwest.

In 1998, the Army brought the Davis family to University Place and Pastor Dee Eisenhauer said Ellen was the first person to ever knock on the church door to ask when the next service for new members would be held. And so they joined the UCUP family!

Virginia is home to Ellen's parents, sister, two brothers, nieces and nephews, and Wes's brother and nephews. They will also be east coast family for Cierra and Kyli Gillard whose jobs have them near the Davis' new home. And still there will be room for those coming to “sit a spell”.

“We so appreciate the love poured out on us and the wonderful memories made with each of our UCUP friends. We will miss you! God Bless”. Wes, Ellen, Mike and Sara Davis  
Our new address: 375 Grassmere Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903



## **Annual Duck Daze 2017**

We had 10 waddlers for the Annual University Place Duck Daze. Many thanks to all our walkers: Cathi Cline, Pat Mail, Nancy Moffett, Janet Wicks, Chris & Neva Berry with Emma & Wes; Pastor Cathy & Angie; as well as a few we picked up along the way - Don Morgan.





## Interfaith IFTAR Celebration

UCUP members attended the interfaith IFTAR celebration of breaking the fast during Ramadan. Christine Long shares: "It was wonderful! I sat with Pat and Bob Rudolph, and Leslie Ann Knight and Vic Bode, along with Brother Pasha and several other members of the Islamic Center. Brother Pasha had a table reserved when Pat and Bob arrived. He insisted that we all sit with him. Brother Pasha, one of the elders in the Mosque, was the first speaker of the night. There were many members of the Islamic Center in attendance as well as representatives



of many other denominations. The MC for the night was Sister Alaa. She was the student representative of the 2017 PLU graduating class. The Keynote speaker was Imam Ahmed. The presentation went from 7:30 to 9pm and included some of the speakers covering what Ramadan means to them, their experience of fasting during Ramadan, and a 2nd



grade girl came up to recite a verse of the Quran for everyone. She had already memorized the last book of the Quran because apparently, children start memorizing the text from the last book to the first as the last books are shorter. We broke fast at 9 PM with dates (symbolic of how the

Prophet broke his fast) and then those who wished to, went into a prayer room, while the rest of the audience lined up for dinner. The food was abundant and delicious and we were all happily stuffed."

## A Little Member News...

On 8 June Bobby and I were invited to attend the 242<sup>nd</sup> US Army birthday celebration. We were so proud to be invited by our adopted grandson Sam Smith. Sam was the Master of Ceremonies, and how grand he looked in his dress uniform. It was an honor to see so many wonderful young soldiers receive awards for all their achievements while in the Army. What a credit Lt. Col. Smith is to the Army and if I may say so, our Church. We took many photos so that Sam can send some to his mother - how proud she must be. Submitted by Pat Rudolph



Sam Smith





## The May 20th Hunger Walk

This event was hosted by the Emergency Food Network this year. The United Church in University Place walkers and donors raised a total of \$1,675.00 this year to help the local food bank from UCUP walkers and donors.



# July 2017

Every Sunday – 10am Worship Service  
10:15am Elementary & Youth Sunday School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 10am-3pm Needlers— Orchard View Room 5pm SPR	4 July 4th Closed 10am Cong. Care Mtg. 1pm ALZ Support Group	5 Noon Brown Bagger Bible Study Group  6:30pm  Finance Mtg.	6	7	8 10am-2pm Days for Girls
9 	10 6:30pm Board Mtg.	11	12 Noon Brown Bagger Bible Study Group  	13	14	15
16Teddy Bear Picnic in Orchard	17 	18	19 Noon Brown Bagger Bible Study Group  	20	21 6:30pm Play, Boogie & Jam Night	22
23 Sun. Forum Topic: Homelessness 30	24  31	25 	26 Noon Brown Bagger Bible Study Group  	27 	28	29



## Church Contact

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## Church Employees

Rev. Cathlynn Law  
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Music Director: Jeff Andersen  
Nursery Attendant: Claire McCarthy  
Sunday School Teacher: Jem Wynn



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

**Newsletter**

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**United Church In  
University Place**

3912 Grandview Dr W  
University Place, WA  
98466



**Weekly**

**Sundays**

10am Worship Service  
With Rev. Cathlynn Law  
10:15am Elementary Sunday  
School (4yrs to 11yrs)  
10:15am Youth Sunday School  
( 12yrs & Up)

**Wednesdays**

Noon-2pm Brown Baggers  
Luncheon & Bible Study Group

**Thursdays**

7:30pm-9pm Choir Practice  
(Sept—May)

**Monthly**

**1st Sunday of the month**  
Communion during worship

**1st Monday of the month**  
10am-3pm Needler's Craft Group

**1st Tuesday of the month**  
1pm Alzheimer's Support Group

**3rd Friday of the month**  
6:30pm P,B & Jam Night  
Bring your instruments!

**4th Sunday of the month**  
11:45am 4th Sunday Forum

***We are United with God,  
United to Love,  
and United to Serve Others***