

September 2018

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



Homecoming Worship & Brunch on Sunday, September 16th

Join us as we welcome our choir back in worship. Following worship we will gather downstairs for brunch sponsored by Congregational Care. You may be invited by one of the members (Joyce, Kathy, Ardie, Pat, or Vic) to help prepare part of the brunch. In lieu of an all-church potluck, consider bringing non-perishable items to donate to My Sister's Pantry.

Afterward, please consider helping transform our Fellowship Hall into a welcoming space to offer hospitality to families from Family Housing Network.

Family Housing Network—Hosting Families

We'll be renewing our ministry with Family Housing Network in September. We sheltered more than two dozen people in February, the current population is only 6 according to FHN, though "nothing has changed." We've been confirmed for Sept. 29-Oct. 5, since early in the year, but the week previous is still open on the FHN schedule, and we're assessing whether or not we can meet the need, so it is possible we will begin our shelter on Sept. 22. Sign Up sheets will appear soon, and we'll keep in touch via announcements at worship, email and phone.

Thanks.
Tom Milligan



Sunday School Schedule

Faith and Spiritual Growth is finding creative ways to ensure we continue to offer quality Sunday School for our children. We are still seeking to hire someone 21 years or older to teach Sunday School on a regular basis. Until such time, Robert Brown will be asking folks in the congregation to step in to teach one Sunday this fall. We are grateful for the many folks who stepped up to teach this past spring and summer. We couldn't have held Sunday School this year without the help of Win Bjarke, Cindi Bodie, Sharon Britcher, Robert Brown, Cathi Cline, Christine Crossley, Jim Fohrman, Addy Harding, Rosemary Jones, Leslie Ann Knight, Nancy Moffett, Ben Small, Dennis Small, Judy Thierry, Janet Wicks, and Angie Wolle.

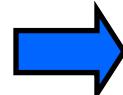
Thank you for stepping up!



Please consider approaching Robert to let him know you can help out by teaching a week this Fall, before he knocks on your door.

Until we hire a Sunday School teacher, children will stay in worship on Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of each month.

See Page 2 for Ecumenical Bible Study Details





From Pastor Cathy

Ecumenical Bible Study: Reclaiming Jesus - a community study, on Monday

evenings, offered by: four local churches on "A Confession of Faith in a Time of Crisis"

We will be using the Reclaiming Jesus Study Guide: reclaimingjesus.org

Religious leaders from a wide variety of traditions gathered for a retreat on Ash Wednesday 2018. Together, they put forth a statement (you can watch/read it on the website above):

"As church elders from around the country from different denominations, races, and genders. We are witnessing perilous and polarizing times. We believe the soul of the nation and the integrity of faith are now at stake. Our country's leaders have co-opted the name of Jesus. We feel deep lamentations for the state of our nation, and our own hearts are filled with confession for the sins we feel called to address.

So, we are commending this statement and reclaiming the name of Jesus. It's our duty as leaders to speak truth in humility and love. But when politics undermine our theology, we must examine those politics. Therefore, we believe, each human being is made in God's image, racial bigotry is a brutal assault of the image of God. We reject the resurgence of white nationalism and racism, including the highest level of political leadership. We reject the misogyny, harassment, assault and the abuse of women. We believe how we treat the hungry, the stranger, the sick, the prisoner, is how we treat Jesus Christ. We reject the politics that would abandon the most vulnerable children of God. We deplore the growing attacks on immigrants and refugees. We believe that truth is morally central to our lives. The truth shall set us free. We reject the lies that have invaded our political and civil life. We believe that Christ's way of leadership is servant hood, not domination. We reject any move to autocratic political leadership and authoritarian rule that threaten democracy and common good. Our churches are part of an international community. We should seek to love and serve all its inhabitants rather than seek and our country's dominance over all others. We reject an America First philosophy as theological heresy. We share a patriotic love for our country but we reject xenophobic and ethnocentric nationalism that places our country over others.

It is often the duty of Christian leaders, especially elders, to speak the truth in love to our churches and to name and warn against temptations, racial and cultural captivities, false doctrines, and political idolatries—and even our complicity in them. We do so here with humility, prayer, and a deep dependency on the grace and Holy Spirit of God.

It is time to be followers of Jesus before anything else—nationality, political party, race, ethnicity, gender, geography—our identity in Christ precedes every other identity. We pray that our nation will see Jesus' words in us. *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another"* (John 13:35).

Created by: Rev. Dr. James Forbes, President and Founder, Healing of the Nations Foundation and Preaching Professor at Union Theological Seminary; Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann, Professor Emeritus, Columbia Theological Seminary; Dr. Tony Campolo, Co-Founder, Red Letter Christians; The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church; Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr., Co-Convener National African American Clergy Network; Fr. Richard Rohr, Founder, Center for Action and Contemplation; Rev. Jim Wallis, President and Founder, Sojourners; and many others.

Monday Evenings, 7:00 - 8:00pm

9/10	St. Andrew's Episcopal
9/17	UCUP
9/24	Mt Cross Lutheran
10/1	Mason UMC
10/8	St. Andrew's Episcopal
10/15	Mt Cross Lutheran
10/22	UCUP
10/29	Mason UMC
11/5	St. Andrew's Episcopal

From Our President



The thing about endings, is that they nearly always are also a beginning. As I write this, summer is coming to an end, at least officially. Everyone else in my house is gearing up for the start of the school year, including Emma's very FIRST school year! And

so, while we look wistfully at the end of the summer season, we are well aware that excitement and growth awaits in this new beginning! And so, too, is it here at UCUP. As of the 21st of August, work is progressing on the repair of the septic system, ending that long-anticipated project. Likewise, the repairs from the water damage downstairs are being completed, granting us a new beginning with refreshed upstairs bathrooms. And, hopefully by the time this hits publication, the church building will have a new coat of paint to provide a fresh new appearance as we, too, engage in another new beginning.

Sometimes new beginnings are largely a continuation of what has come before, simply made better from learning and experience. September marks the start of the second round of our new Worship Team rotation system, with the team led by Marilyn Thompson again taking up the reins of many of the tasks involved with Sunday Worship. Many thanks to all those who have answered the call to assist with worship tasks these past 5 months, and especially to our Fearless Leaders: Marilyn, Janet Wicks, Rosemary Jones & Kris Schrantz, Joyce Demarest, and Robert Brown! And sometimes they are wonderful continuations of tradition, such as the Blessing of the Animals this August, which drew significantly more people and pets attending than we expected! Truly a joy!

And sometimes, there is a liminal space between endings and beginnings, a time of waiting, hope, fear, and anticipation. We have been without a full-time Sunday School teacher since last Spring when Jem left us, and yet, we have had wonderful people stepping in to spend time with the children of our church family. And we have had some able assistance and continuity from Addy, which has been of huge benefit. We have welcomed more families visiting UCUP of late, and I hope we will continue to grow our ability to meet their needs, and the needs of all of the children who come worship with us. For now, we continue to staff Sunday School with generous volunteers, we also continue to pray for a new permanent Sunday School teacher. If you know of someone who is 18 or over and interested in applying for this paid position, please touch base with a member of SPR (Laura Giddings) or Faith and Spiritual Growth (Robert Brown) for more information.

As we move into this new time, as we see our students and teachers head back to school, and as we mourn our many endings and celebrate our many new beginnings, I remain thankful for the wonderful, ever-changing consistency of the family of UCUP. Thank you for blessing me, and all of us, with your caring, work, help, and love.

Walking the circle with you,
Chris Berry
President of the Congregation



Daniel Gray Powell was born happy and healthy on July 29th.
Proud parents are Brendan & Amber



Up & Coming

Choir Rehearsals Resume—September 6th from 7:30—9pm

Our wonderful, talented chancel choir will return to Sunday worship on September 16th. We look forward to welcoming any new folks who might be interested in joining us. Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings starting September 6th from 7:30 - 9pm under the direction of our widely acclaimed Music Director, Jeff Andersen.



Homecoming Sunday & Brunch - September 16th

Join us in worship for Homecoming Sunday where we will welcome our choir back after the summer break, celebrate our kids in worship, and join us for brunch after worship.

If you are able to help with set-up or with clean-up please let Pastor Cathy know. Details will follow.



New Member Gathering - September 30th - following worship

Join Pastor Cathy and a few other folks in exploring what it would mean to become an official member at United Church in University Place. We will share part of our spiritual journey with each other, and learn some of the history of being a church with roots in two different denominations (United Church of Christ & United Methodist Church). Light refreshments will be served. Join us if you are curious or if you aren't sure you want to become a member.



Safe Church Policy Training - October 7th

This past year our Staff Parish Relations Committee made a few edits to our Safe Church Policy, and the Board adopted it earlier this year. All are invited to a training on October 7th, following our worship service, so you can read through and familiar with our policy. We will be viewing a few training videos through MinistrySafe.com and go through the quiz together. All of these efforts are an endeavor to keep our children and youth and other vulnerable populations safe. Some of you will be asked to fill out the Washington State Patrol background check on behalf of UCUP if you work with children & youth. Each non-profit must secure their own WSP background check, so you may be asked to fill out a separate one for Family Housing Network.



Sunday, August 12 Special music

“Lean on me, Everlasting Arms.”

Thank you Stuart Lane, Dennis Small, Don Thompson, AJ Milleret and ever-ready choir members for such Ministry.



“Carried held and rocked”
Children’s sermon for all ages.





Joys & Concerns

Eighty plus humans attended the Blessing of the Animals service on August 19th, in the Curran Orchard. Since some of them ran around a lot it was hard to get a count of the dogs, but I'm sure there were over 20. It sounded like some of the cages had more than 1 cat in them, so there isn't an exact count on the cats, but there were at least 4. Nancy Moffett gets the prize for bringing the biggest dog and Bob Rudolph for the littlest. With help from the Reverends Cathi Cline, Leslie Ann Knight and Angie Wolle, I believe Pastor Cathy saw to it that all the animals got blessed. Unlike some years, there weren't any parrots, mice, ferrets or horses this year!

As in years past the Blessing of the Animals was followed by a potluck in the Fellowship Hall. Robert Brown and Joe Becker were in charge of the grill and Tanya Sorenson was the runner between the grill and serving table. Good food, like baked beans, fresh fruit, salads (including potato), brownies and apple pie AND lots of chips, was enjoyed by all that could stay...and as always with a shared meal, there was good fellowship.

Thanks to Laura Giddings and a number of people went home on the 12th with some flowers (that included small sunflowers and dahlias) and vegetables from L'arche. Writing of flowers, we all get to enjoy the flowers as we enter the church. Thank you Janet Wicks, Sharon Britcher and to all who take the time to see that the flowers get watered, for adding some beauty to United Church.

Our sympathy to the family of Betty Smith, to Tom and Allison Milligan on the death of his mother, to Laura and Roger Balcom on the death of her step-father, and to Hank and Judy Thierry for the loss of his sister.....GOOD NEWS: Lou Lehmann is out of the hospital and was able to be in church on the 12th....Michael Marcoe is out of the hospital and back at Rainier Rehabilitation, and Win Bjarke is home, after spending 3 weeks in UP Care...Helen Engle is recovering from a successful surgery after breaking her hip..more good news, thanks to help from Pastor Cathy, Kris Schrantz, Tom Milligan & Jim Cash, Randi Byrd and Michelle Wallace are back in their newly renovated apartments....please keep all of them in our prayers.

Please continue to remember in your prayers those not able to make it to church (and maybe remember them with a note now and then): Yvonne Begeman...Dorothy Burkhart...Mary Jones...Doris Larsen...Joan Martin...Billie Jo Morgan...Donna Shoe & Michael Marcoe.

THANK YOU FOR THE 84 CANS OF TUNA GIVEN IN JULY AND THE MANY BARS OF SOAP (HAVEN'T COUNTED THEM YET) IN AUGUST.



September item of the month is Peanut Butter

The Care and Concerns Committee

invites you to join them for a brunch, in the fellowship hall, after the service on **September 16th**.

If you are not one asked to bring a dish for the meal, we ask that you consider bringing an item for My Sister's Pantry.

Thank you!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Salt and Light



UCC - 9 reasons for voting:

<http://www.ucc.org/9 reasons why you should vote>

- #1 Your voice may be missing** - 40 percent of the electorate stayed home.
- #2 Your vote could tip the balance** - Some elections come down to the wire. Each vote is vital.
- #3 There's more at stake than you might think** - ...voice in what's happening at every level of government
- #4 Its fun** - Going to the polls is a great way to get to know your neighbors.
- #5 Cold, hard cash** - It's your money, you should have a say in how it's being spent.
- #6 Bragging rights** - "I Voted" stickers. #doitforthegram
- #7 People fought and died so you could cast your ballot** - For many groups of people, the right to vote was hard fought. Less than 100 years ago women couldn't vote and while the 15th Amendment, which was passed after the civil war granted the right to vote for citizens regardless of race, it wasn't until the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that many African Americans were able to vote. Today we still see voter suppression in many states, which makes it harder to vote or register to vote.
- #8 You can shape the policy debate**
- #9 Our faith in this world calls us to be salt and light**



September 2018

- 2 Robert Brown
- Chuck Schilling
- 7 Diane Small
- 8 Vic Bode
- 11 Roger King
- 12 Elizabeth Gregg
- Judy Thierry
- 14 Ellen Davis
- 19 Jenny Hartley
- 21 Doris Larsen
- Kris Schrantz
- 22 Marilyn Thompson



Save The Date for the Annual Dinner

We are pleased to announce that FAN's Annual Dinner will be held Sunday evening, **November 18, 2018**, at the Renton Pavilion. We look forward to celebrating with you all that has been accomplished this year through the collaboration of our network, and gather strength for all that lies before us. More information to come soon—please save the date on your calendar! Start thinking of who you'd like to gather at your table.

In the meantime, we have several volunteer openings as we prepare for the dinner:

- Planning committee—join staff and board 1-2 times a month, with follow up tasks in-between.
- Sponsorship coordinator—can you help us reach out to new dinner sponsors?
- Graphic Designer—use your art and design skills to help create our invitations!
- Office assistant—work with us in dinner headquarters a few hours a week.
- Photographer/Videographer—help us prepare for and capture the event through your lens!
- Night of Event—join the team that makes the evening run smoothly.

Contact Elise at degooyer@fanwa.org if you'd like to volunteer!

Fourteen UCUP folks made the trip for the blessing of Cathi Cline's new home in Lacey. Congratulations Cathi!!!!

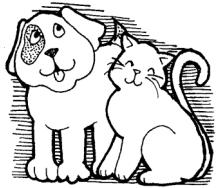


Children's sermon on the world and boundaries and going together

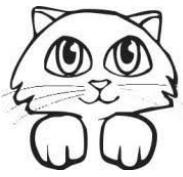


We're so excited we're jumping up and down. School supplies get a send off to family housing network students.





*Blessing of the
Animals Service
August 19th*





2018

Every Sunday — 10am Worship Service

10:15am Elementary Sunday School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 	3 	4 10am CC Mtg 1pm Alz Mtg	5 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch 6:30 Finance	6 7:30—9:pm Choir Rehearsal	7 	8
9 	10 6:30pm Board Mtg.	11 	12 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch	13 7:30—9:pm Choir Rehearsal	14 	15 10-3pm Days For Girls
16 11:30 Home Coming Brunch	17 7pm Receiving Jesus Study St. Andrews	18	19 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch	20 7:30—9:pm Choir Rehearsal	21 6:30pm Play, Boogie & Jam Night. FHN Setup	22 FHN Arrives
23 30 New Member Gathering	24 7pm Receiving Jesus Study United Church	25 	26 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch	27 7:30—9:pm Choir Rehearsal	28 	29 FHN Arrives



Church Contact

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Church Employees

Rev. Cathlynn Law

Office Admin: Lynne Jenks-Dudschat

Music Director: Jeff Andersen

Nursery Attendant: Addy Harding



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**United Church In
University Place**
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Weekly

Sundays

10am Worship Service
With Rev. Cathlynn Law

10:15am Elementary Sunday
School (4yrs to 11yrs)

Wednesdays

Noon-2pm Brown Baggers
Luncheon & Bible Study Group

Thursdays

7:30pm-9pm Choir Practice
(Sept—May)

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

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 Tuesday of the month
6:30-8pm Men's Group:
"Concerns in Our Hearts & Souls"

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

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