

# November 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



### Super Stewards is our theme for our 2019 Stewardship Drive

Many thanks to all those who were able to attend one of the Stewardship Cottage meetings in October to offer your vision for the ministry of UCUP and where you are an integral Super Steward in helping that vision come to fruition. A note of thanks to our Worship & Fellowship Leaders for bringing the various groups together.

Consecration Sunday will be held on **November 11th** when we receive pledges for 2019 along with the ways you feel called to participate in the mission & vision of UCUP.

Following worship we will join in the Fellowship Hall for our annual Thankful Dinner. Given that the theme of this year's program is Super Steward's we hope that you agree that a Souper idea is to serve Soup! The food committee would appreciate a few folks stepping up and bringing finger foods and desserts to complement the 4 varieties of soup that will be offered. If you are so inclined to help please contact Janet Wicks, Nancy Moffett or Pamela Maddess.

Don't forget to bring your pledge and your Time & Talents sheets with you. If you are not able to bring them to the dinner, return them to the church office, so we can complete our budget for 2019. If you need forms, contact Jim Cash. Thank you!



The FAN Annual Dinner is their primary fundraiser. This dinner will be held at the Renton Pavilion on **Sunday evening, November 18 at 5:30pm**, which is the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving. Typically, there are very interesting speakers at these dinners, and we, as a church, sponsor a table. I hope to do this again this year, so please talk to me about your plans to attend. If you need some financial support, this possibly can be provided. We have sponsored a table and supported this fundraiser for several years and hope to see you this year.

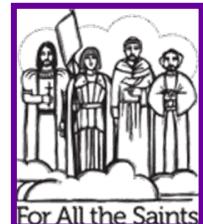
Submitted by Robert M. Brown, your Faith Action Network liaison

### Annual Interfaith Celebration ~ Nov. 20th 7pm at First Christian Church ~ 602 N Orchard St

Join us as we come together in peace and community at Thanksgiving to reflect upon and share our gratitude. For more than a quarter of a century, this annual gathering has brought together people of many faith traditions. This gathering may include participants from the Bahá'í, Buddhist, Catholic, Center for Spiritual Living, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Jewish, Muslim, Native American, Protestant, Sufi, Unitarian Universalist and other faith traditions.

### All Saints Day November 4th

On Sunday, Nov. 4th, we will celebrate All Saints' Day in our worship service. We remember those who came before us in the faith. We celebrate their lives, and remember that we are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses".





## From Pastor Cathy

I want to take you with me, for a moment, on my second week at the Academy for Spiritual Formation. And many thanks to Tanya Sorenson for leading the end of worship so I could make it to my plane on time. We are so blessed with so many “Super Stewards” at UCUP!!!

It's back to basics with spiritual practices. One of our speakers this week is Marjorie Thompson, who wrote “Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life” 25 years ago. In it she lays out basic practices to open our hearts to God and getting to know the heart of God. It includes: Spiritual Reading, approaches to prayer, reclaiming Sabbath, fasting, self-examination, confession, following a rule of life. I want to share a few glimpses from the chapters on worship and on hospitality. They are simple basic reminders of life with God and our shared life together.

**Worship** is rooted in who God is and in God's purposes. We worship because it is natural to respond to the mystery that illuminates life. Worship ushers us into the presence of the living God and demands the attention, receptivity, and response of our whole being.

We need to experience our Christian life as rooted in the larger community of faith. We need the prayers of others as they need our prayers. We cannot live the spiritual life in total isolation from Christian community. To be Christian is to be joined to the body of Christ. The visible way the church expresses this reality is by gathering in the Spirit to receive and respond to God's living Word.

We gather for worship to remember who and whose we are. We come to recount the stories that shape our faith, stories that turn us from a collection of individuals into a community with a common source and vision. It also means that we can present a united front “against the cosmic powers of this present darkness”. It takes a communal witness of light, truth, and peace to overcome the corporate power of darkness, deception, and destruction in this world.

We can revitalize our practice of personal worship. Our own daily prayer becomes tilled soil for perceiving the seed of God's Word in the liturgy.

During worship you may find it helpful to arrive early in order to prepare oneself to worship from the heart. Ask the Spirit to be actively present and known in the gathered community and for the faithfulness and integrity of the church in its worship and mission.

Be prepared to hear God speak - to you personally and to the whole gathering.

Pay attention to the meaning of the printed prayers.

Listen to the words of hymns with an ear for the meaning.

Listen carefully to any Psalm you may recite. The Psalms give us a realistic voice for praise, anguish, yearning and confession - a way to reveal the depths of the human soul to God. Regular recitation of the Psalms gives us a repertoire of prayers known by heart that can anchor us through the gale winds of life.

If you are given an opportunity to pray silently, offer to God what you discover in your heart at the time.

**Hospitality** begins with God. Until we are deeply rooted in the experience of God's grace, we have neither the living example nor the strength of commitment to live hospitably in a hostile world. When we become willing to receive from God, we naturally express the hospitality of gratitude. We offer hospitality to God when we make ourselves consciously present to the Divine Presence and listen for what the Spirit is communicating. In the story of Mary and Martha, Mary chooses to receive the gift of Jesus' presence with her own presence. Is it possible that Jesus experienced Mary's listening as a deeper act of hospitality than the provision of food and drink?

# From Our President



As you may have noticed, it is Stewardship Season again! Our spectacular Stewardship Committee has, in just a few weeks, developed and produced another creative and exciting theme, Super Stewards, highlighting the heroic measures that our support of this church and its missions truly are. They again help to encourage us to prayerfully consider how our treasure, time and talents can best support UCUP and the important work it does in our lives. This work is evident in many ways, including the number and breadth of people who are willing to answer the call when needed. As I write this, it is still a week before Halloween. Our annual Pumpkin Carving was at risk of being cancelled for the year as the people who have faithfully shepherded it in years past were not able to do so; yet, brave souls including Cindi Bode, Rosemary Jones, Kris Schrantz, and Joyce Demarest were willing to step in and run what I'm sure will be (was, as you read this) a wonderful event! Thank you so much to them, and to the many, many others we have who remain engaged and enthusiastic about participating in the life of this church.

In the coming weeks, please consider how you are able to share your gifts, financial and otherwise, as we prepare for the end of our Stewardship drive and complete our financial pledge forms, as well as the Time and Talent sheets. These are invaluable in helping the Board and other committees to plan the budget for the next year, and to have a better awareness of what the other resources and talents of our membership are, so that we can help to engage you, and further develop the ministry of the church.

Please prayerfully complete those and bring them in for the Thankful Dinner on November 11. Thank you for being such a vibrant part of the life of UCUP!

Sincerely,  
Chris Berry, President of the Congregation

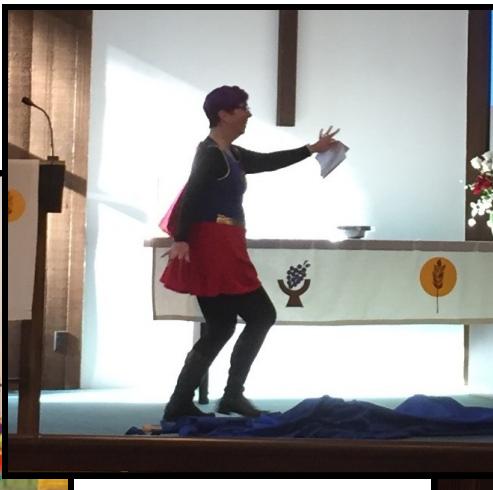
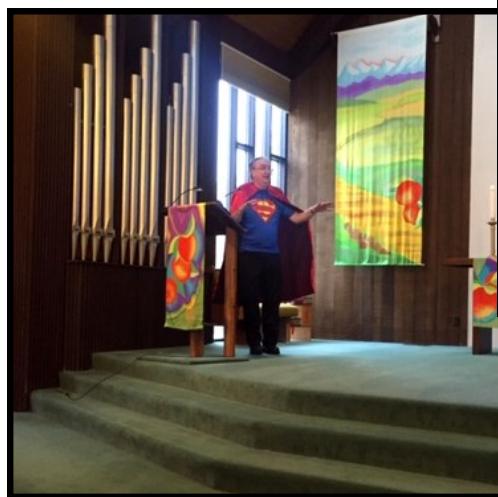


## Super Stewards

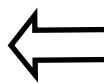


Stewardship Sunday kicked off with newest member Nora de Sandoval providing inspirational testimony. The following Sunday, Superman re-appeared in worship in the form of Dennis Small offering a heartfelt word on what moves him to offer his time, talent and treasure.

Nora de Sandoval

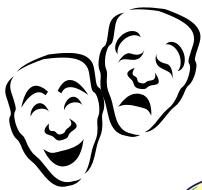


Dennis Small



Dennis Small





# Joys & Concerns

**WELCOME New Members**, Cindi Bodie, Nora de Sandoval, Susan Kelly and Kay Shaben.



Congratulations to Joshua and Crescenda, who were married at United Church, by Rev. Cathlynn Law, on October 5th. It was lovely to see them join us for worship on 10/21.



went downstairs to enjoy a scrumptious Mexican feast single-handedly prepared and served by Pamela Maddess & watched the movie CoCo. Many thanks to Pamela for a delicious meal and the loan of the movie and to Cindi Bodie, Hank and Judith Thierry seen helping with the clean-up.

Sunday, Oct. 21st, was a busy day at United Church, church service started at 10 a.m., which included a visit from SUPER STEWARD II.....during Fellowship Time we belatedly celebrated Doris Larsen's 90th birthday, with cake! Mostly we celebrated that Doris was able to be with us.

After the celebration, 40 of us



Please keep Pat Rudolph and Meredith Sage in your prayers as they are kept home with health problem...we give thanks that Helen Engle has recovered enough from her broken hip to be back home...our sympathy to Shirley Paulson whose brother died in Florida recently.

Our sympathy to the family of artist Larry Anderson, who died on October 18<sup>th</sup>, wife Sharilyn, daughters Kristen and Marti and son Caplan. Larry and his wife, Sharilyn were charter members of United Church and active in church life while they lived in UP. His painting, hanging over the stairs, was painted and given to the church while they were with us.

Please keep those unable to be with us in your prayers: Mary Jones...Doris Larsen...Joan Martin...Billie Jo Morgan...Michael Marcoe...Yvonne Begeman...Donna Shoe...Michelle Wallace...Randi Byrd...Deb Howard...Win Bjarke.

## November item of the month Is SPAM



## **Lead the Way Home Breakfast - Thursday, Nov. 8, 7:30-8:30 a.m. at Foss Seaport**

This is Associated Ministry's primary annual gathering; each year we attempt to bring the community together to be inspired about how we come alongside those experiencing homelessness. There is no cost to attend but we do ask for financial support. The program lasts one hour. Talk to Ruth Cannon or Pastor Cathy if interested.



The FAN Cluster gathering will be held at Bethany Presbyterian Church from **7:00-9:00 PM on Thursday, November 8**. The purpose of the cluster gathering, which for years has been held in September, is to meet with our fellow churches to discuss what is going on in our faith communities to support our Faith Action mission. It also serves to discuss issues which we plan to bring forward on our Interfaith Advocacy Day in January or February. At this meeting, we will also be able to discuss political realities, given that it is just two days after the election.

Robert M. Brown, your Faith Action Network liaison

## Days For Girls

Celeste Mergens, Director (2nd row, right one in) spoke about the many girls and women and their community cultures that we touch from our ironing boards, cutting tables and sewing machines. Meeting the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10am-2pm - at the new place: 2601 70th Ave W Suite I, University Place WA 98466



## Peace & Justice

Can you name one of our UCUP benevolences? Look for them posted behind the coffee hour table for ease of viewing this month and November. Members met and discussed Christmas gift giving for a variety of special populations this year. Some alternative gift giving is also planned.

Interested in joining us or chairing the meetings? We welcome drop in members. Thank you for your generosity this 2018.

Peace and Justice



## Greening Activity

The UCUP Greening Activity Group presented a *Friday Night at the Movies* on Oct. 5th. We watched--with popcorn, sodas, and coffee abundant sitting in comfy seats, with a bright screen, and the sound system of the Sanctuary--a recent PBS/NOVA full-length movie, called *Decoding the Weather Machine*.

There was a short discussion about the movie, and how it informed us about an upcoming election issue and we found out that one of us had a family connection to the scientific discovery that was the genesis for the subject of the movie.

For those who prefer to make their own popcorn, get their own soft drinks, and/or brew their own coffee, and that have a computer that has Internet connection, you can watch it at home. If you decide it would be worthwhile seeing, you might want to do so before your voters ballot arrives

Here is the link: <https://www.pbs.org/video/decoding-the-weather-machine-vqhot/>

If you have interest in joining Greening for future activities, feel free to talk with Roger Martin.



## Special Contributions For Disaster Relief

Special contributions for national and international disasters are always welcomed in the collection plate. They will be divided between UMCOR and the UCC - Emergency Fund USA where 100% goes to the relief, with no amount for administrative costs. This past spring UCUP donated over 8k.

This past spring UCOP donated over 8k.  
Thank you!

Thanks,

## Peace & Justice



## Readers Theater in Worship

It's always fun to mix things up a bit in worship. A week ago, we experienced a Reader's Theater with scripture. Many thanks to Neva Laurie-Berry, Marilyn Thompson, Tim Shipe, Angela Wolle, Chris Berry, and Wes Berry as Blind Bartimaeus.



## Pierce County Aids Foundation (PCAF)

# Courage, Compassion, Resilience



## LETTER FROM PCAF LEADERSHIP

Courage, compassion and resilience: these were the focus in 2017 as we honored PCAF's 30 years of fighting the HIV epidemic in the South Sound. And they are values we continue to rely on in our daily work.

- One of the most telling statistics about the success of PCAF's programs is that 91% of our HIV-positive clients had achieved viral suppression (aka, undetectable) – this is critical for people's health, as well as in preventing the spread of HIV.
- Client Services and Prevention, 2017 brought new programmatic developments, including:
  1. PrEP Case Management
  2. A motel voucher program to give people coming out of incarceration a safe and stable place to stay while they figure out their living and work situations; and
  3. Retooling of ID assistance program to help trans clients secure gender-affirming identification.

The past 30 years of service have given us a solid foundation upon which we can continue to build effective and innovative programs that serve the needs of our clients and communities, to carry out our mission, and to work towards an end to this epidemic. Your ongoing support is valued and makes these successes possible. In service and partnership,

*Erick T. Seelbach*  
**Erick Seelbach**  
Executive Director

*Babette Beckh*  
**Babette Beckham**  
Board President

3009 S. 40th Street Tacoma, WA 98409 P (253) 383-2565

Email: [info@piercecountyaids.org](mailto:info@piercecountyaids.org)



# November 2018



- 4 Down Foreman
- Leslie Ann Knight
- 5 Joe Becker
- 7 Tanya Sorenson
- 8 Billie Jo Morgan
- 9 Rosemary Jones
- 10 Stephen McQuillan
- 11 Chris Berry
- 14 Allen Munn

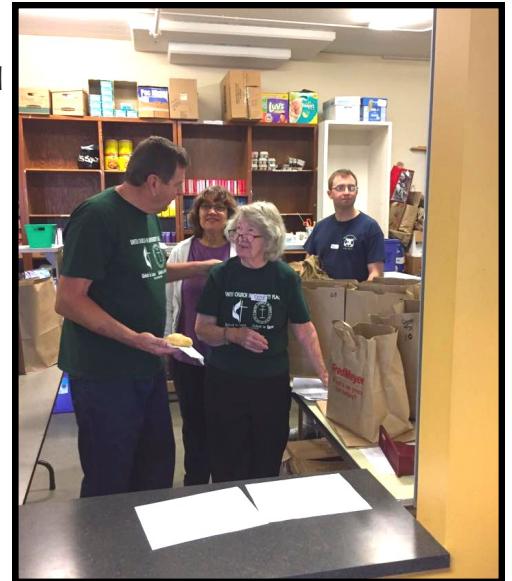
18 Sharon Bratcher  
20 Nancy Moffett  
21 Lisa Huston  
30 Addy Harding



## Volunteering at My Sister's Pantry

My Sister's Pantry Saturday October 27 served 85 families and individuals.

UCUP participated with students from University of Puget Sound and Lewis- McCord team.



## Annual Pumpkin Carving—October 27th

Twenty folks gathered together on Saturday evening to create a variety of Jack o'Lanterns to put out for Halloween. Many thanks to Kris Schrantz & Rosemary Jones (food), Joyce Demarest (clean-up), Don Morgan (sound & music), & Neva Laurie-Berry (creative pumpkin awards) for helping to make it such a fun evening.



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

**Newsletter**  
Vol. 36 No.11  
November 1, 2018

**United Church In  
University Place**  
3912 Grandview Dr W  
University Place, WA 98466  
253-564-2754  
office@ucup.org



**Weekly**  
**Sundays**  
10am Worship Service  
With Rev. Cathlynn Law  
  
10:15am Elementary Sunday  
School (5yrs to 11yrs)  
  
**Wednesdays**  
Noon-2pm Brown Baggers  
Luncheon & Bible Study Group

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

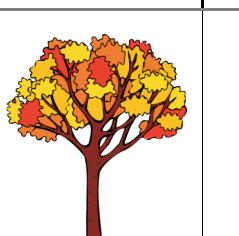
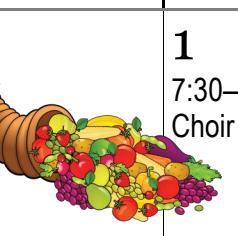
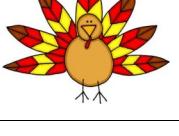
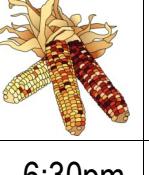
***We are United with God,  
United to Love,  
and United to Serve Others***

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



## **Every Sunday—10am Worship Service 10:15am Elementary Sunday School**

2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:30—9:pm Choir Rehearsal	2		3 
4 All Saints Day Daylight Savings End	5 	6 VOTE 10am CC Mtg. 1pm Alz Mtg 6pm SPR Mtg.	7 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch  6:30pm Finance	8 7:30am Assoc. Ministry Breakfast 7pm FAN Mtg. 7:30pm Choir	9 	10
11 11:30am Stewardship Dinner	12  6:30pm Board	13 	14 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch 	15 7:30—9:pm Choir Rehearsal	16 6:30pm Play, Boogie & Jam Night	17 
18 5:30pm FAN Annual Dinner	19 	20 6:30pm Men's Group 7pm Interfaith Celebration	21 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch 	22 	23 Office Closed	24 
25	26 	27 	28 12pm Brown Baggers Bible Study & Lunch 	29 7:30—9:pm Choir Rehearsal	30 	



## Church Contact

(253) 564-2754  
office@ucup.org  
pastor@ucup.org  
[www.ucup.org](http://www.ucup.org)

## Church Employees

**Rev. Cathlynn Law**  
**Office Admin: Lynne Jenks-Dudschus**  
**Music Director: Jeff Andersen**  
**Nursery Attendant: Addy Harding**

