



A United Church of Christ/
United Methodist Church
& a LGBTQIA
Welcoming Congregation

UCUP

October Newsletter

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

All Saints Day



On Sunday, Nov. 3rd, 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". During the service, we will read aloud the names of all church and family members who have passed away since November 3, 2018. We will be remembering those in our church family who have passed away this past year, including Dorothy Burkhart, Allen Munn, Helen Engle and Joan Martin.

If you would like a loved one's name included in the service, please tell the church office by Oct. 29th. During the service, there will be time for you to speak aloud the name of anyone who has impacted your faith, and also light a candle in their memory.

Peace & Justice Forum

Peace and Justice will host a Forum on Sunday, October 20th with Erick Seelbach, Executive Director of Pierce County AIDS Foundation (PCAF) from 11:30-12:30pm in the Orchard Room. Hear an update about the local and global faces of HIV/AIDS and what is happening in the world to end the epidemic. Contact Judy Thierry for questions.



ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC
IN THE SOUTH SOUND



EVERYONE WELCOME!

PUMPKIN CARVING & TIE-DYING OCTOBER 26TH AT 5PM

**BRING A PUMPKIN, CARVING KNIVES,
AND A "FINGER" FOOD TO SHARE!**

We are adding tie-dye to this year's Pumpkin Carving event. We will provide handkerchiefs for people to tie-dye. These will be used in worship as prayer flags to go along with our "yet to be announced" 2020 Stewardship theme. *If you would like to tie-dye a t-shirt, please bring one along with you.*



SPRC launches Pastor and Congregation Evaluation Process

The Staff Parish Relations Committee's responsibilities include evaluating the pastor. While this can take many forms, this year SPRC and Pastor Cathy have agreed that it would be beneficial for her and the congregation to do a comprehensive evaluation that includes responses from all who would like to share their thoughts.

The main purpose of the evaluation is to promote mutual learning and growth. To that end, there are questions about both Pastor Cathy and about the congregation. Please answer all questions if possible; there is a "Don't Know" option if you don't have experience with that aspect of our ministry.



Your responses will be held confidential within the SPR Committee. Responses to the rating questions will be aggregated into a score. Keep in mind that your comments may be shared exactly as written or summarized, but they will not be attributed specifically to you. Please provide your name at the beginning of the survey to ensure that we receive only one response per individual. Surveys returned without a name will not be tabulated.

As you prayerfully consider your responses, Staff Parish Relations asks the following of you:

- That you give this survey the time it deserves.
- That you answer **ONLY** for yourself, and not for anyone else.
- That you offer the truth in love, honesty and a spirit of openness.

SPRC appreciates your support and prompt response. The survey period ends Friday, October 18. You can help us by completing the survey online if possible. There are 25 rating questions and 5 comment areas for you to offer additional thoughts. Here is the link to the online survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPRC_EVAL19

If you need a paper survey, they will be available at the church and can be returned in a sealed envelope to Kelly at the office. If we are aware that you don't typically access information online, blank surveys will be given to you at church or mailed to your home.

Thank you for your participation!

SPRC members: Laura Giddings, Chair; Joe Becker; Leslie Ann Knight, Tom Milligan, Nancy Moffet, and Judy Thierry



Men's discussion group fires up again on **Tuesday, October 15!** All men warmly invited for vigorous conversation and good time together! 6:30-8pm in Youth Wing at the church. Questions or need more info? Email Jim Davis, kjadavis42@gmail.com

From our President



As I write this on the Autumnal Equinox, it is nice to pause for a moment to realize that Fall is in full swing. Summer vacations are over, and the kids are getting back into the routine of the school year. Baseball season is winding down and football season is picking up. The weather has already changed from routine blue skies to the grey and rain the Pacific Northwest is famous for. It is often easy to fall into grief over the loss of long days, warm temperatures, and the feeling of freedom that summer can bring.

And yet, on this day of turning, it's good to remember that with every loss, there is a gain. The kids are learning, benefiting from their routines, and coming back to Sunday School. We have had several new kids attending the church in recent months, and Faith and Spiritual Growth has even been able to expand to 2 separate Sunday School classes and curricula to better serve our growing kids. The choir is back, and sounding wonderful! The fun of events like the Halloween Pumpkin Carving and the annual Stewardship Drive is coming soon. And we get to see many familiar faces again in worship who have been traveling over the summer. Even the more regular rain can make it easier to notice the periods of clear blue skies that happen for parts of so many days.

So, this autumn, I encourage you to watch for the pretty days, savor the colors and flavors of fall, and watch for the joys that God creates and brings about in the midst of challenges. Watch for the opportunities for growth and engagement during the seasons that make us think of slowing down, but also let us be more engaged. And say "yes" to the opportunities for connection, service, engagement, stewardship and appreciation of beauty that autumn brings.

Peace,

Chris Berry, President of the Congregation

SUNDAY SCHOOL

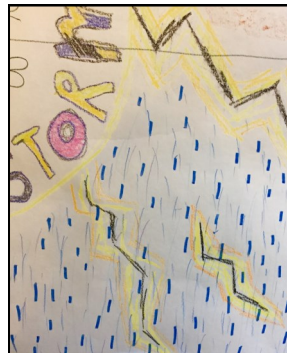
We explored storm sounds and produced a symphony taking turns as conductors and lightening crew. The group then adopted quadrants and drew their ideas in crayon and tape. These are scary times and promise of God's presence in all times.



Rains a coming -
Sun and blue sky
almost gone
By Sophia



When lightening strikes
your house
By Camron and Judy



Storm-heavy rain
everywhere thunder
and lightening
by Judy and Addy



Emma and Arrietta
explore after the rain.
Even the animals are
coming out.



Joys & Concerns

WELCOME back choir, we've missed you. But I'm sure you know that Jeff Andersen, Don Thompson and Dennis Small did a great job of keeping the music going during the summer...with a little help from a couple of spontaneous choirs. Good job everyone!

Hopeful all those in school got off to a good start, Emma Berry in 1st grade to Addy Harding, senior at Curtis High School...and of course we want to keep in prayer those who are teaching, this year, including Cecelia Schilling, teaching 1st grade. One that did not go back to school this fall is Fran Cash. After many years of working as a teacher's assistant at Sunset Primary School, Fran retired last June to spend more time with her grandbabies.

I'm happy to report that: Mary Jones is settled into a care home out on Gravelly Lake Road...that Dennis and Diane Small are both feeling better and able to be back in the choir...we've had a number of visitors, hopefully you've greeted those sitting near you or that you see at Fellowship Time.

We're sorry to report that Billie Jo Morgan, whose been living in Rainier with her daughter Ruth the last 2-3 years, had a fall mid-September and is now on Hospice Care. Billie is a charter member of United Church and was a member of the choir for many years. Our prayers are with her and for her family.

Please include in your prayers our members and friends that can go longer make it to church. A note or visit would be nice, if you're able. Win Bjarke...Randi Byrd...Michelle Wallace...Mary Jones...Doris Larsen...Michael Marcoe...Donna Shoe.

October Birthdays

10/6 Norma Rader &
Peter Schilling
10/7 Aubrey Elliott
10/8 Peter Burhop
10/10 Sophia Whitney - 9 yrs
10/11 Laura Beesley,
Rosa Beth Gibson
& Hank Thierry
10/15 Ron Wicks
10/18 Meredith Sage
10/21 Kathleen Kenna
10/25 Angie Wolle
10/27 Tom Milligan
10/31 Blanche Beesley



My Sister's Pantry Item of the Month: **CANNED FRUIT**

This month My Sister's Pantry is collecting canned fruit. Bring your cans in on any Sunday in October!



Dawn Foreman is *collecting diapers* for her work with Catholic Community Services. Lately there has been an urgent need for diapers of all sizes from Newborn to size 4, baby wipes, and formula. If you have a desire to help out with this ministry, there is a bin in the church foyer marked accordingly with blank donation receipt forms in the bottom. Your care and generosity are not small kindnesses, they are HUGE and so appreciated.





Not only will UCUP turn 50 in January 2020, others are celebrating their 50th anniversary as well. Here is an excerpt from Tahoma Audubon newsletter:

As part of the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Tahoma Audubon, they are spotlighting some charter members who laid the foundation for volunteerism, advocacy, and education which made this chapter a renowned environmental organization.

Helen Engle, Win Bjarke, along with Nels, were part of Audubon since the early days. Win left her home in Connecticut, to drive solo cross-country to stay with an older brother, a physician in Tacoma. She started teaching with the Clover Creek School District, later known as Bethel. When she arrived and saw Mt. Rainier, she proclaimed, "I've got to climb that." A friend told her she should join the Mountaineers and get instruction on climbing. She took that advice, and that is where she met Nels. The pair climbed Mt. Rainier together when she was 23.

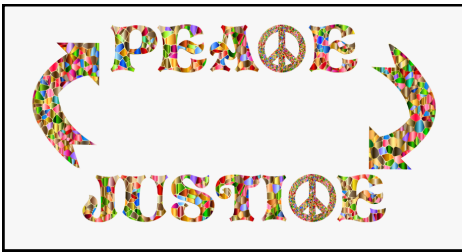
After retirement, Win & Nels traveled all around the world by bicycle - they biked the full length of the Mississippi River, France, Italy, Denmark, New Zealand, and Kathmandu. They took trains, camels, and boats across Siberia, China, Pakistan, and Namibia. They traveled to Antarctica, and as far north as they could go toward the North Pole in Greenland.

Win & Nels were introduced to Tahoma Audubon through their Mountaineers' friends, Helen and Stan Engle. Early meetings were held at Helen's home. Win received the Tahoma Audubon Distinguished Service Award in 2013. When asked why the Tahoma Audubon chapter grew so quickly Win didn't hesitate to answer, "Helen Engle. And Thelma Gilmur. Helen would always be taking a stand on an important environmental issue and corralling others to get involved."

In a nod to the Golden Anniversary of Tahoma Audubon, Winnie summed it up with, "We want to be around another 50 years."



Our 40+ years "downstairs" friends started their 2019/2020 year on September 16th. Those little ones are enjoying the use of our Sunday School space and working hard discovering and learning how to play with others.



Next **Peace and Justice meeting** will be held on:

Wednesday, November 6th at 3:30 pm

(Join Judy for Yoga at 2pm to warm up)



Days of Prayer and Action for Colombia

Thank you to Cathi Cline for bringing Michael Joseph with Global Ministries to us for a presentation. Michael talked with us on Columbia peace accord and steps toward justice after a fifty year war with one in five being victimized.



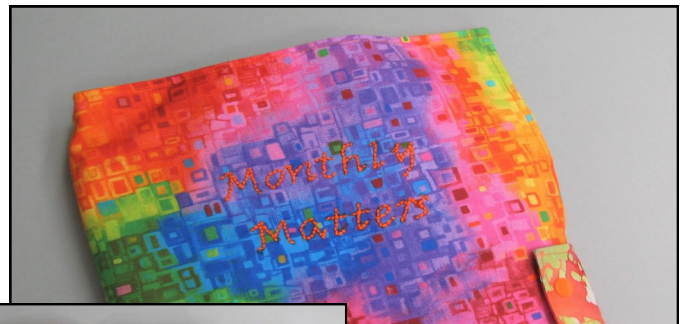
"Monthly Matters" on display at "All Stitched Up" Exhibit at Collins Library at UPS

Dorothy McCuiston had an inspirational idea to create a collaborative book with volunteers from Tacoma's Days for Girls, a non-profit providing reusable menstrual kits to women and girls around the world so they can stay in school or continue working. Days for Girls met in the Youth Room at UCUP for two years before finding a permanent location. This quilted book was one of 50 entries out of 200 submitted works to be selected into the "All Stitched up Exhibit" currently on view at UPS. Each page of the book includes an embroidered fact or quote onto an actual component of a Days For Girls kit. Some of the quotes include:

"Every Girl. Everywhere. Period."

"A period should be at the end of a sentence, not a girl's education."

"Anything you can do, I can do bleeding."



Congratulations Dorothy!

Help support our partners in ministry

Saturday, October 26th will be the next opportunity for UCUP volunteers to work at **My Sister's Pantry from 10am-1pm**. The food bank is located at First United Methodist Church, 621 Tacoma Ave. A clothing bank is also open during this time and a hot meal is served to the clients. Please sign up in the Narthex and contact Ruth Cannon with any questions.



Building community & friendship for people with intellectual disabilities

Saturday October 12th

Registration Deadline: October 2nd.

6:30pm—10:30pm

Tickets: \$65

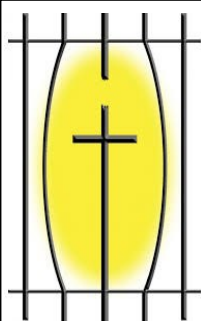
Venue: "The Bix" at St. Leo's

www.larchetahomahope.org/events/larche-fest/



Annual Dinner

- **Sunday, November 10, 2019**
- 4:30pm-10pm
- Renton Pavilion Event Center
233 Burnett Ave S, Renton
- \$75 per person
- Contact Robert Brown with questions



Living Stones Prison Ministry – Saturday, October 12th—5:30pm

I was in prison and you visited me. Matthew 25:36

UCUP members are invited to join Mount Cross Lutheran in worship with the Living Stones Prison Ministry in Shelton. It is a wonderful opportunity to support and worship in solidarity with them. If you are interested in attending or learning more, please contact Dennis Small by Sunday, Sept. 29, so we have ample time to do a background check prior to the visit.

You are cordially invited to the



FALL FUNDRAISING DINNER

Saturday, October 19 - 6pm - \$60

Bischel Hall at St. Leo's Parish

710 S 13th St, Tacoma

Come for dinner, wine, music, a silent auction

Deadline for Ticket Sales is October 5th

TICKETS available only at:

[https://www.brownpapertickets.com/
event/4323684](https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4323684)



AUCTION

- **Thursday, October 24th**
- 6pm-9pm
- Christ Episcopal Church
310 N, K Street, Tacoma
- \$60 per person
- Contact Jim Cash with questions

Beach Clean-Up at Owens Beach, Pt. Defiance Park

Roger Martin organized a group from church to participate in the International Coastal Clean Up Day, one of the world's largest annual preservation and protection events and volunteer efforts for our oceans, and beaches. The group from UCUP hiked along the seawall picking up garbage as the tide inched closer, running out of beach before reaching the stairs. A few wet feet, but everyone made it to safety. Thank you Sharon Britcher, Cathi Cline, Renee Gillard, Anthea Hubanks, Roger Martin, Kay Shaben and her granddaughter Courtney, for participating.



What is your Give-Away?

On September 1st, a number of people responded to the question, "What is your Give-Away" in worship - the symbol of your life's offering, your life's work, labor and passion in the world that also happens to bring you joy. Here is a snippet of what people shared as their give-away. Neil Rader took out his hearing aid and said it was symbolic of listening to others. Norma Rader talked about her love of Sacred Dance. Cathi Cline brought examples of sewing and quilting projects and shared her love of needle and thread. Anthea Hubanks shared her love of writing and poetry. Tom Milligan recited a poem he had written decades ago. Neva Laurie-Berry talked about her passion for biology and how she was able to use it to mentor others. Laura Giddings shared her gift and passion for leadership. Ardie recited a quote that she lives by, a quote that is often attributed to John Wesley: "Do all the good you can, at all the times you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can." Both AJ Rowatt and Dennis Small shared their love of and gift for music. Kay talked about listening to people and walking a mile in their shoes. Vic Bode talked about his passion for coffee and being the "coffee man" at church. These are just a few of the gifts and give-aways represented in a gifted and generous congregation. Thank you for sharing your many gifts with UCUP and with the wider community.



October

Every Sunday—10am Worship Service
10:15am Elementary/Youth
Sunday School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10am Congregational Care Mtg 1pm Alzheimer's	2 12pm Brown Baggers	3 7:30—9pm Choir	4	5
6 Worship 10am Greening mtg after service	7 9-10am Meet w/ legislators	8	9 12pm Brown Baggers 5:30 Finance	10 7:30—9pm Choir	11	12 5:30pm Prison Ministry
13 Worship 10am	14 6:30pm Board Mtg	15 6:30pm Men's Group	16 12pm Brown Baggers	17 7:30—9:pm Choir	18	19
20 Worship 10am 11:30am Sunday Forum with Erich Seel- bach, PCAF	21	22	23 12pm Brown Baggers	24 7:30—9pm Choir	25	26 5pm Pumpkin Carving & Tie- Dying
27 Worship 10am	28	29 6:30pm SPRC	30 12pm Brown Baggers	31 7:30—9pm Choir		

Church Contact

(253) 564-2754
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Rev. Cathlynn Law
Music Director: Jeff Andersen
Nursery Attendant: Addy Harding
Office Admin: Kelly Krisman



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
UNITED CHURCH IN UNIVERSITY PLACE
3912 GRANDVIEW DRIVE WEST
UNIVERSITY PLACE, WA. 98466

POSTMASTER:

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Vol. 37 No10
October 1, 2019

**United Church In
University Place**

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Weekly

Sundays

10am Worship Service

10:15am Elementary/Youth
Sunday School

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

3rd Tuesday of the month
6:30-8pm Men's Group:
"Concerns in Our Hearts & Souls"

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

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