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

An Open and Affirming Congregation * Member of Greater Kirkland Ecumenical Parish
A Greening Congregation * Affiliated with the Center for Progressive Christianity
An Advocating Congregation of the Faith Action Network

From our Pastor:

Dear Church,

Although the month of June marks the end of our program year and the shift into summer, the month is shaping up to be quite busy. The calendar includes bible presentations to our young people, a presentation about the planned permanent shelter for women and families with children, our June 10th Congregational Meeting and congregational barbeque, Ele N. helping to lead worship on June 17th with stories of her encounters with the Spirit, and finally, Pride Sunday on June 24th.

I am happy that we will be welcoming Ms. Karina O'. to worship on Sunday June 3rd. Karina is a member at Lake Washington United Methodist church where she organizes their Safe Parking program which provides a safe place for people living in their cars. She is also a board member at The Sophia Way, which focuses on assisting women who are dealing with homelessness on the Eastside. As a part of this work Karina has been instrumental in advocating for a permanent emergency shelter for women and families with children. Karina will be joining us to share about the permanent shelter project that is cited for property adjacent to the building that houses the Salt House church and The New Bethlehem Project. Plan to be in worship to hear about how we can help with this important project!

This summer you will notice a couple of changes in worship—both focused on our children. Beginning on June 17th we will have a carpeted area at the front right side of the sanctuary. Our children are invited to spend the morning up front quietly playing, reading, or coloring during worship. We don't have church school classes during the summer, but we want to make it clear that our children are welcome in worship...by creating a "home-y" space for them to enjoy during worship. Our nursery will still be available for our youngest children, but we want to say "welcome" to our older children as they come to worship and we hope that by offering this special place that our children will know that they have a place at their church home! Parents and older siblings are welcome (but not required) to enjoy this space too!



Over the summer our "Time for Young Disciples" will include a weekly element of surprise.



Beginning on June 17th our young disciples will be invited to take a turn (or 2) at putting an item in a 'Mystery Box' that will be opened at the beginning of the young disciples time. The item needs to be able to fit in the box and can't be a living animal or something that could be dangerous to have in worship...but other than that there are no rules! Upon opening the box to discover what is inside I will improvise a children's message based on what is hidden inside. Perhaps I will have a ready answer for how to connect the uncovered item to God or perhaps I will find myself stumped—we'll see how that goes! At the end "Time for Young Disciples" I will give another person a chance to

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Bible Sunday June 3rd

It is a long-standing tradition at Kirkland Congregational UCC to present our children and youth a special Bible at various times of their faith journey.

We present Bibles to our second graders, sixth graders, and graduating High School seniors.

Nate G, our graduating High School Senior, will receive a UCC Presentation Gift Bible with his name engraved on the front cover. Nate will be graduating from Shorecrest High School on June 17th. Congratulations Nate!!! We are so very proud of you and all you have accomplished. Nate will be attending Central Washington University in the fall with a focus on drama.



Conner G, a sixth grader at Inglewood Middle School, will be receiving a Good News Bible.

Also, we have 2 second grade girls who will receive the "Shine On, A Story Bible". Receiving this new story Bible are **Molly B.** and **Amelia B. G.**

And for our young preschooler, **Arria B. G.**, we have a special Bible — "My First Bible in Pictures."

We are blessed as a congregation to have these wonderful children and youth and their families as a part of our faith community.



All Church Barbecue

Sunday, June 10th
following worship and
Congregational Meeting

Come and enjoy sizzling hamburgers, veggie burgers and hot dogs off the grill, an array of salads and a wonderful dessert.

Meat, buns, condiments, beverages and dessert, as well as plates and silverware will be provided.

**We are requesting that you
bring a salad to share.**



Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 10th

Sunday, June 10th is the date of our Annual Spring Congregational Meeting. The meeting will take place immediately following the morning worship service.

We will vote on:

- *New Officers for Church Council
- *Members for some Committees

We will be:

- *Receiving Year End Committee Reports
- *Other business to be determined by the Church Council.

Your participation in this congregational process is critical to our commitment to and the continued living out of our covenant to each other.

Be a part of the celebration of the energy and enthusiasm, we experience as members in the life of Kirkland Congregational United Church of Christ.



Sunday School Classes for Children

Our last day of Sunday School classes for this school year will be on Sunday, June 10th.

During the summer months, beginning on Sunday, June 17th, the children will be staying in the worship service with their parents, with a new twist this summer. (See Pastor Ryan's article)

Nursery Care for our younger children, ages 0—5yrs will continue to be available throughout the summer.

Sunday Events for June

Sunday, June 3rd~

- *Bible Presentations to Youth and Children
- *CE Appreciation
- *Special Guest-Karina O'.
- *Communion Sunday



Sunday, June 10th~

- *Last Sunday of Sunday School classes
- *Congregational Meeting
- *All Church BBQ



Sunday, June 17th ~ Father's Day

- *Meditation: Ele N./Ryan L.



Sunday, June 24th ~ Pride Sunday



After 15 years of caring for our youngest members, our Nursery Child Care person, Joyce C., has decided to retire. When Joyce began working here, Cody G. was just 2 years old.

Joyce has been very dedicated to the care and safety of our children through the years, rarely missing a Sunday. She has shared with each child in her care, the gift of play, the gifts of patience, a gentle spirit and unconditional love.

Thank You, Joyce!
You will be missed!





Living the Season after Pentecost



Trinity Sunday leads us from the red of Pentecost Sunday to the green growing time of the Season after Pentecost, which is also called Ordinary Time. But is there anything ordinary for those who invite the Spirit to lead them in new ways?

The Season after Pentecost is the longer season of the Christian year. It begins after the great celebration of Pentecost and continues until the Sunday before Advent. It is long. It is vibrant. It is active.

There are no big festival days within the season, so it would be easy to imagine it like a long, empty highway stretching out in front of us. But what seems like emptiness can be an invitation to special mindfulness and attention.

The traditional color of this season is green. In the natural world, green is a color of infinite variety – just think of how many shades of green can be found on a single tree or in one small field. When we start paying special attention, we see green everywhere in all of its differences and variations. It's the same with the stories of this season. When we start paying special attention to the stories of ordinary lives and relationships, we begin to see the variety of tones and hues of God's presence.

June 3rd: *Listening, Speaking, Acting*

1 Samuel 3:1–10, (11–20)

Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18

2 Corinthians 4:5–12

Mark 2:23–3:6

Something to think about, talk about, or do

Deep inside and all around, Samuel heard God's call and said, "Your servant listens." God calls people of all ages to be part of God's work in the world. No matter who we are, God knows us and calls us. God speaks.



Together this week

Talk about and celebrate the people in your church who help you to listen for God's word. Think of a "listening practice" you might all engage with during the week, such as a breath prayer. You say a two-part prayer. When you breathe in, you think the first part. When you breathe out, you think the second part. (*Breathe in*) "Speak to me," (*breathe out*) "O God."

Any short prayer will work. Think the prayer in your mind or whisper it over and over. Soon you will do it without thinking.



Prayer ~

Loving God, may your light shine in us as we travel this earth. Amen.

June 10th: *Choices and Consequences*

1 Samuel 8:4–11, (12–15), 16–20, (11:14–15)

Psalm 138

2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1

Mark 3:20–35

Something to think about, talk about, or do

Samuel listens carefully – to the people and God. On the other hand, the people are impatient in their listening and want what they want when they want it. Sometimes we want something – even when we've been

cautioned that it is not good for us – so that we can be like others.

Together this week:

Think of ways you have wanted something so that you can be like others.

How did that work out for you?

Decide together what you might need to change so you can be authentically you – not like others.

Prayer:

O God, we pray for leaders everywhere, we ask for your help for times when we are leaders, too. Amen.

June 17th: God's Role for Me

1 Samuel 15:34—16:13

Psalm 20

2 Corinthians 5:6–10, (11–13), 14–17

Mark 4:26–34

Something to think about, talk about, or do

Seven sons of Jesse pass by Samuel, but not one of them is the one God intends as future king. These seem to be all the sons Jesse feels necessary to present to Samuel. However, Samuel, knowing that God intends to pick one of Jesse's sons and has not yet done so, asks if there is another. It turns out there is one more, the youngest, who was busy tending to chores while the older sons were allowed to attend the sacrifice. Samuel anoints this almost overlooked youth before returning to Ramah.

Together this week:

Take turns saying what qualities you see in one another. Not in outward appearances but the qualities within.

Prayer:

God of grace and fresh beginnings, through all our senses you come to us, calling us to know you, and love you, and live for you. Help us to discern your call and grant us wisdom in our response. Amen.

June 24th: Agents of God

1 Samuel 17: (1a, 4–11, 19–23), 32–49
or

1 Samuel 17:57—18:5, 10–16

Psalm 9:9–20 *or* Psalm 133

2 Corinthians 6:1–13

Mark 4:35–41

Something to think about, talk about, or do

David's trust in God is born of experience. Out of that trust comes David's courage to face Goliath. Out of that confidence comes David's call to Israel: "Let no one's heart fail because of Goliath."



Together this week:

Talk about "giants," the difficult situations being faced by each one. Encourage one another with the "tools" each has to help face and diffuse these challenges.

Prayer:

Help us, O God, to trust in you for courage to face challenges. Amen.

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take the box home so they can bring it back with something to prompt the next week's children's message.

Finally, the weekly actions of the Poor People's Campaign will continue in Olympia through the month of June. I am planning to trek down on most Mondays and continue to invite folks to join me



in this movement as we seek to raise up the moral issues that keep people in poverty. These initial 40 days of the campaign are meant to be just the beginning as we speak out against the systems that keep people bound in poverty.

Blessings to all of you—see you in Church,

~Ryan



Appreciation for Special People

A special thank you to all the members and friends of the congregation for your continued support of our Christian Education program for all ages, Sunday School teachers, our Adult Education Classes, Faith Uncorked, Earth Keepers, Peace and Justice Awareness, our monthly mission projects, as well as the special projects of Children's Sabbath 40 Days of Prayer, Hopelink, the Tree of Angels, the Lenten Projects, Granola Bars for students at Franklin High School, Nourishing Networks School Break Boxes and The New Bethlehem Shelter.

We thank all those who work on our behalf to help us enhance our faith journey in a variety of ways throughout the year. Those dedicated people are Eloise B., Lynne and Michael G., Brianna M. and Michael G., Sarah J., Pat J., Margie & Van K., Jennifer G., Grace L., Shauna L., Rev. Tom S., Nancy L., Jim P., Ben v U. and Rev. Ryan L.

We have been blessed to have had a wonderful caregiver in our nursery each Sunday for many years, who receives lots of hugs from little ones, but very little recognition from the rest of us. Thank you to Joyce C. for her years of gentle and loving care.



Kirkland Town Hall Meeting on Gun Safety & Community Safety

On Wednesday, June 20th, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm, the city of Kirkland will host a town hall. The meeting will be at the Lake Washington High School Theater - 12033 NE 80th St, Kirkland. This is in response to a resolution passed on May 1st by the Kirkland City Council, a resolution "setting forth the need for community dialogue and action on the topic of gun safety and community safety." All are urged to attend (you don't have to be a Kirkland resident).

The town hall is the first city action to engage the community in discussions about what the city might do to reduce gun violence. The Council is interested in community views on topics such as improved enforcement of existing regulations, education and training to support responsible firearm ownership, mental health support and initiatives, state and local legislation on firearms safety. In addition to the town hall, other methods of collecting input will be used. It's important to note that all points of view are welcome during these community dialogs.

For more information, see the church bulletin board and the city of Kirkland website.





KCC UCC Camp Scholarship Fund 2018

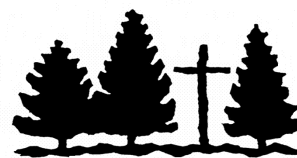
Each year we make an effort to provide 50% of the camp registration fee for each camper from KCC UCC that attends a summer camp, and/or a retreat at either of our camp locations. This fund is available for all children, youth, and adults. In the past years, the fund has supported campers at Kid's Camp, Intermediate Camp, Junior High Camps, Senior High Camps, Family Camps, Women's Retreat, Men's Retreat, Confirmation Retreat, Regional and National Youth events.

The Outdoor Ministry Programs in our Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ are among the best. Our Camp and Conference Centers of Pilgrim Firs near Port Orchard and N-Sid-Sen on Lake Coeur d'Alene, outside Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, are outstanding facilities in magnificent locations that are changing lives for the better, forever.

Last year, many KCC UCC adults, children, and youth attend a camp or retreat at one of our sites. Each one was offered a Camp Scholarship covering 50% of the registration fee. We want to be able to send our youth, our children, our adults, our families to the camp or retreat of their choice this year, but we need your help.

During the next few weeks, the Christian Education Committee will be accepting donations to the KCC Camp Scholarship Fund after church to reach our goal of \$1000. Support your church family as they experience the wonders of the outdoors and explore their relationship to God, themselves, and to others.

**Please give
generously!!!**



N-Sid-Sen Camp & Conference Center 2018

Emerging Adult Camp - June 15—17
(ages 19-35)

Work Camp (Free/all ages) - June 18—21

Senior High Aqua Camp - July 8—14
(going into 10th grade-entering college)

Kid's Camp - July 15—18
(going into grades 2-4)

Intermediate Camp - July 15—21
(going into grades 5-6)

Rainbow Retreat - July 20—22
(age 18+)

Family Camp #1 - July 29—August 4

Junior High Aqua Camp - August 5—11
(going into grades 7-9)

Family Camp #2 - Aug 19—25

For information, call 208.689.3489 or
visit n-sid-sen.org.

Pilgrim Firs Camp & Retreat Season 2018



Service/Mission Camps
June 24—29, July 15—20

For information:
call 360.876.2031
or visit pilgrimfirs.org



**Help Send Me to
Camp**
Donations accepted on
Sunday, June 3, 10, 17
and throughout the
summer.



Kirkland Congregational Church Prayer List



In your time with God this week, please lift up the following people in prayer:

Ele N.
Jerry R.
Ruth W.
Judy H.

Meredith G.
Sarah J.
Verna T.
Winter L.

LaVerne F.
Dorris K.
Barbara L.
Ruth Ruff

Victims of abuse

Victims of crimes and violence
Residents of Camp Unity

Victims of natural disasters
Residents of Tent City4

Please contact the church office to add someone to the prayer list or to have a name removed. Call 425/822-3811 or email kccucc.office@gmail.com.