



The Good News

A Newsletter for Friends and Members
of Kirkland Congregational United Church of Christ
May 2018



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,

During the month of May, we conclude the season of Easter with the celebration of Pentecost, which celebrates the Holy Spirit's role in the formation of the early church and its continued movement within the life of the contemporary church. On May 20th, we will have several opportunities to celebrate Pentecost. First, we are hosting a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for those attending the UCC's Western Regional Youth Event. Grace (L) is joining with the delegation from Bellevue First Congregational UCC and this is a joint fundraising effort...come for breakfast and support our youth as they travel to Hawaii for this June event. Both of our worship services on May 20th – 10:30 am and The Table (5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall) will center around what it means to be changed by the Spirit.



In May, the work of the New Poor People's Campaign will also kick-off in our state and across the country. This campaign, which builds on the last campaign of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is being spearheaded by the Rev. Dr. William Barber and the Rev. Liz Theoharis in an effort to bring attention to the distorted morality that has divided our nation. This multi-state effort is kicking off just after Mother's Day with an initial 40 day campaign. This initial campaign will seek to bring the following issues to the front of our nation's conscience: Systemic Racism, Poverty, Environmental Devastation, and our War-Based Economic System (which promotes fear and the belief in scarcity). As this campaign gets rolling, there will be opportunities to participate in actions, in letter writing campaigns, and in prayerful support. Stay tuned for updates as this campaign gets going...



May is the month when we begin to prepare the slate of leaders who will be elected at our congregation's Annual Meeting, which will be held this year on Sunday June 10th. In the spirit of Pentecost, I invite you to think about how and where the Holy Spirit might be leading you to serve your church in the coming year. In life we often fall into routines and in the church this is true as well, but our church needs new voices in new places in order to thrive. How might your gifts be used to lead our church in the coming year?

Finally, I want to let you all know that Joyce C, who has admirably served as our Nursery Caregiver for many years, will be retiring from that job on June 10th. We will celebrate her on that day, but as we move forward beyond June 10th we will need to find someone new to staff that position. We will be working to have a job description widely available soon and would appreciate you sharing it within your networks so that we can find the next person to take care of the youngest members of our church family.

Blessings and peace to each of you,

Ryan

Sunday Events

1st Sunday of Month ~

Sunday, May 6th:

Soup Sunday

**3 Homemade soups,
bread, and beverage served in
the Lounge following worship**



Confirmation for All Ages

12:05~~Helliwell Room



Sunday, May 13th ~

Mother's Day



Sunday, May 20th

Pentecost Sunday

**Pancake Breakfast in
Lounge 9:00—10:15am**



The Table—

5:30pm

Fellowship Hall



Sunday, May 27th ~

Memorial Day Weekend

Confirmation for All Ages

12:05~~Helliwell Room



May Mission Project



New Bethlehem Project

**The Day Center for families
experiencing homelessness on the
Eastside**

The New Bethlehem Day Center for women and families has been in operation for a little over a year. It has been successfully meeting the needs of many of the homeless folks in our community. The Center is open from 2:00pm—8:00pm, Sunday through Friday.

They provide washing machines, computer stations, showers, afterschool snacks and activities for children, and dinner meals. Case workers are provided by Catholic Community Services.

Again this year, we hope to provide the following items in support of the families being aided by the New Bethlehem Day Center.

- **Laundry Powder (not liquid)**
- **Dryer Sheets**
- **Shampoo**
- **Conditioner**
- **Children's shampoo**
- **Shaving Crème**
- **Razors for Men and Women**
- **Liquid Body Wash Soap**



**We will use Common Cents Funds to
purchase trial sized Toothpaste.**

**Items can be brought to KCC on any Sunday
during the month of May...**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Please see page 8 for ***more*** information
on **two important dates re: special
events.**



Faith Uncorked is a ministry of Kirkland Congregational Church, which gives us an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas about our faith in a different venue, and also an opportunity to help others who might not normally connect with church to come find out what a Progressive Christian community is like!

Where: Home of Lynne & Michael G

When: Tuesday, May 8th

Bring: Favorite bottle of wine or non-alcohol beverage and an hors d'oeuvre to share.

Time: 7:00pm

**Don't keep it bottled up
— Uncork your Faith!!**



Pancakes Being Served!
Sunday, May 20th
before Worship

Grace L, along with youth from Bellevue First Congregational UCC, will be serving a Pancake Breakfast here at KCC before worship.

This is a fund raiser for these youth to enable them to attend the UCC Western Regional Youth Event at the end of June. The event is being held in Honolulu at the University of Hawaii.

Come and support these wonderful youth.

A call to act for Kirkland Residents:

On next Tuesday, **May 1**, the City Council of Kirkland will be presented a petition asking the city to partner with the community to prioritize gun safety in our city and state. The petition asks the Council to take the first step toward this by passing a resolution of intention to do this. If you are a Kirkland resident, please consider signing the petition, which is now available online at <https://www.change.org/p/kirkland-wa-city-council-support-a-gun-safety-resolution-in-kirkland-wa> (The petition already has about 700 signatures.) Even better, if you can, please attend the meeting, which begins at 7:30, and wear something orange to show your support. Writing a letter of support is welcome, too.

The primary organizations working on the request and petition are KirklandSafe (KirklandSafe.org) and Indivisible Kirkland Kenmore (indivisiblekirklandkenmore.com). Other groups support the effort, too. For more information on the May 1 request, see the Indivisible Kirkland Kenmore website.

It is VERY IMPORTANT to note that those organizing this effort are asking for the first step to be respectful community dialogue that includes diverse opinions.

Thanks for considering this request. Contact me if you have questions.

Sarah J

"2018 Lenten Prayer Water Project"

Thank You to each of you that contributed to the UCC One Great Hour of Sharing through our Lenten Prayer Water Project. Your donations brought in a total of **\$466.00** which will go toward clean water projects in the United States and around the world.





Living the Season after Easter

For the next two weeks, we continue with a time for joyous celebration! The impossible has happened. Christ is alive in a new way and calls us into marvelous joy. As the Easter stories of Jesus' appearances to his friends unfold, recognize that Jesus lives with us also.

Throughout the Easter season, we are introduced to a variety of early followers: women and men, Jews and Gentiles. Each story contains the ancient promises that God is present and has the future in hand.

Following Pentecost Sunday on May 20th, we enter into the long Season of Pentecost which continues until Advent.

May 6th: Loving Friends

Acts 10:44–48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1–6

John 15:9–17

Something to think about, talk about, or do

Jesus did not ask that we obey something arbitrary. Jesus set a wonderful example for us and tells us to simply... “abide in my love.” Jesus has been there before us, loving, serving...showing the way. We are called to do the same...to be in the world as Jesus was, a loving presence.

Together this week:

Reflect on and discuss:

***Where do you find joy?**

***What does it mean that Jesus calls us friend?**

***How can we pass along this loving friendship?**

Prayer:

Generous God, we are complete in you. Please help us to be the best possible friends to those around us. Amen.

May 13th: Love Leads the Way

Acts 1:15–17, 21–26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9–13

John 17:6–19

Something to think about, talk about, or do

“You know everyone’s heart.”

How do you make decisions? In this story, the followers of Jesus pray and roll the dice as a way of discerning who will be added to the eleven apostles. What combination of head, heart, and gut do you employ in making your own decisions? How do you invite God into the process?

Together this week:

Talk about your shared prayer life.

***Who usually leads the prayers and what resources are used?**

***If you were to pray for your friends, what would be included?**

***Create a new family prayer for use this week.**

Prayer:

Holy God, we offer our prayers to you in faith and trust. We know you hear us. Thank you. Amen.

May 20th – Alive in Love

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1–21 or Ezekiel 37:1–14

Psalms 104:24–34, 35b

Romans 8:22–27

John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

Something to think about, talk about, or do

Imagine the disciples – hidden, silent, afraid. They were excited by what happened at Easter and fearful of what might happen next. And the answer bursts upon them like a gust of wind and flame. No mistaking that something awesome is happening! God's spirit is for everyone. God's spirit fills us and sends us into the world, changed forever.

Together this week:

Reflect and discuss:

***What message do you want to carry into the world?**

***How will you carry out this message?**

Prayer:

Active God, you empower and send us forth. Please help us to be courageous and faithful in spreading your message of love. Amen.

Living the Season of Pentecost

Welcome to the Season after Pentecost. It begins after the celebration of Pentecost and concludes with the Reign of Christ Sunday

at the end of November. Some people call this Ordinary Time. But is there anything ordinary for those who invite the Spirit to lead them in new ways? In the Season of Pentecost, the lectionary provides larger portions of semi-continuous readings from a variety of

**Come,
Holy Spirit**



texts, and this enables us to dig into stories a little more deeply than might be available to us in the rest of the year.

May 27th: Take Notice

Trinity Sunday



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. 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. It is a time to reflect on the ways we can live out God's call no matter where we are or what is happening.

Isaiah 6:1–8

Psalms 29

Romans 8:12–17

John 3:1–17

Something to think about, talk about, or do

God's presence is both mysterious and resonant with power. We can encounter God in many ways. Each time we do that, the meeting can be very different. God's love for us is constant, but different times and moods cause us to connect with God differently from time to time. God, who is the powerful creator and keeper of all life, invites us into relationship and opens our lives to purpose and service.

Together this week:

***Share ways you feel/experience God all around and deep within.**

***Share ideas of what you think God sounds like, smells like, feels like (for example, God feels like a big hug, and so on).**

Prayer:

We lift our hearts and minds in praise to you, O God. We lift our voices and sing, holy, holy, holy are you, the whole earth is full of your glory. Amen.

From Camp Unity:

Hi everyone,

I hope your week is going well. I'm emailing because the Camp Unity move starts **1 week from tomorrow and we urgently need volunteers.**

We need your help:

Volunteer to help during the move: If you can help even for a couple hours, please let us know when you're available by contacting me at:

peckolvanwormer@gmail.com, or

206.910.6085. Knowing when volunteers are likely to be available helps us plan and provide updates as needed.

Ask a friend or co-worker if they can help during the move: If you can't help during this move, please consider asking a friend or co-worker who might be available and/or forward this message to others at your faith community.

Here's the key info for easy reference:

Move is 8 am to 5 pm on Friday and Saturday & will start at St. Teresa Calcutta Catholic Church, 17856 NE Woodinville Duvall Rd, Woodinville and move to Northlake Lutheran, 6620 NE 185th Street, Kenmore.

Volunteers are needed to help with loading/unloading trucks and breaking down and setting up the camp
In gratitude,

Lori Peckol

Friends of Camp Unity Eastside



Volunteer opportunity:

YES (Youth Eastside Services) is looking for folks to mentor youth - please check out their flyers on the bulletin board in the Lounge.

Sunday, May 20th



Pentecost Sunday

Remember to wear Red!

Mark Your Calendars:

Saturday, June 2nd:

Recycle Event

9:00—3:00



Sunday, June 3rd:

**Bible Sunday and
Christian Education
Appreciation Sunday**



Sunday, June 10th:

**KCC
Congregational
Annual Meeting
following worship**



**All Church BBQ,
following meeting.
Details to follow in
June Good News.**





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.

Our KCC Camp Scholarship Fund is at an all time low.

During the next 6 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 and Conference Center 2018



Women's Retreat - May 18—20

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





Kirkland Congregational Church Prayer List



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

Bill H, Jr.
Jerry R
Ruth W
Barbara L
Ruth R

Meredith G
Sarah J
Verna T
Judy H

LaVerne F
Dorris K
Brenda B
Winter L

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.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month Two opportunities to educate yourself on this topic:

- Friday, May 4th at Holy Family in Kirkland from 9:30am to 12:30pm, there will be an interactive discussion about a variety of mental health challenges faced by our community, what resources are available to them and how we can help.
Facilitated by Nancy Granger, St James Cathedral Mental Health Nurse & Cathy Callans, Mental Health Counselor at St Louise.
Please RSVP to Andrea at: andrea@hfkparish.org if you wish to attend.
- Saturday, May 5th, at St Louise Bellevue from 8:30am to 5:00pm there will be a Mental Health First Aid Class:
Learn to identify the signs & symptoms of some common mental health challenges as well as give you a tool to interact in way that will be most helpful to those who struggle. This is a certification course presented by Cathy Callans, MA, LMHC.
Please RSVP to Cathy at Cathy@stlouise.org.

Looking ahead

Attention: Council Members, please be advised of the due date for Annual Reports; we'd like to have them in hand by May 29th in order to get them put together in time for the Annual All Congregational Meeting that will be held on June 10th.
Thanks!

~Terri