



The Good News

A Newsletter for Friends and Members
of Kirkland Congregational United Church of Christ
November 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,



Welcome to fall! Amid the often-darkened skies of fall in the Puget Sound area comes the opportunity to enjoy the colors of the season—leaves with a mixed palette of reds, yellows, oranges, and browns. Whether it is from a warm place beside a large window or on one of the many walking paths in our area, I encourage you to take notice of the color of this season and know that you are witnessing the creativity of our God. I especially call your attention to this particular sign of God's creativity because our news, our political environment, the wet weather and cool temperatures can lead us to living what I would call "inside lives," lives that can leave us isolated and feeling alone. To notice the beauty of this season is to take in an antidote to our isolationist tendencies and to notice God!

In worship we begin November by observing **All Saints' Day** on November 4th. This happens to be one of my favorite days on the liturgical calendar because it calls us to remember and celebrate those who have shaped us. Worship will include the hymns "For All the Saints" and "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" and my traditional story-telling sermon is entitled, "Saints I Have Known." Our communion liturgy will include a reading of names of the saints of our lives, which will be gathered from paper included in your worship bulletin. Please join us for this celebration of the saints of the church and the saints who have taught us about life and faith!

On November 18th we invite you to bring your pledge card to worship so we can bless them. Your pledges will form the basis of our 2019 budget and I am grateful for every pledge, every volunteer hour, and every gift of leadership! During the month of November you will be invited by another congregation member to engage in a conversation about our church, your faith, and our vision for the future. I invite your honest feedback and your honest hopes for our church. Our council will be using the information gathered during these conversations to help guide us as we plan for how we can better serve each other and our community.

I also want to put in a plug for folks to join us for **The Table** on the evening of November 18th. This casual worship includes a simple supper (normally soup and salad), a basic liturgy, an interactive and conversational exploration of scripture, and Luke Kreikemeier's gifted musical leadership. We have shifted to an "unplugged" musical format which lends itself to community singing. Join us as we share food, faith, music, and conversation!

Finally, because we are called to live our faith in the world I remind you to vote by November 6th.



Blessings,

Ryan

What's Happening on Sunday during November?

Sunday, November 4th:

Soup Sunday~

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



Sundays, November 18th and 25th:

Adult Education Class

Helliwell Room, 12:05 pm



We will be listening to a variety of podcasts as a starting point for conversations about a diverse set of topics. We

will explore topics that impact our faith journey as individuals and as a church community.

Sunday, November 11th:

6:30—8:30pm; KCCUCC

Joint Confirmation Class



Sunday, November 18th:

Stewardship Sunday ~ Return your pledge for the ministries of KCC UCC

The Table

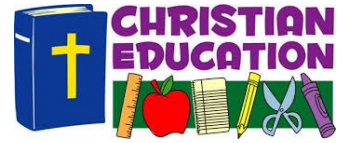
Worship, Soup & Salad Dinner,

Music and Community

Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm



Christian Education Committee



This committee cares for the educational life and ministry of the congregation ~ children, youth and adults in a variety of ways. Also, they provide for opportunities and education in the areas of social justice and mission, keeping the congregation informed of social justice concerns and legislative issues important to our church community and the larger community.

This committee meets on the third Monday of the month.

**Monday,
November 19th
Helliwell Room
7:00 pm**

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**KCC UCC  
Church Council**

**Monday,  
November 26th  
Helliwell Room**



**Daylight Saving Time Ends  
Sunday, November 4th**



## November Mission Project

**A change in items requested by Hopelink**

Due to the fact that Hopelink has grown so much over the years, they no longer need the collection of fresh produce for Thanksgiving Baskets that they once did.

Therefore, KIN (Kirkland Interfaith Network) decided that this year, they would follow the process that we at KCC UCC have taken with our 40 Days of Prayer for Children collections and provide the items that Hopelink's clients are unable to purchase with their EBT cards.

The list of items has been divided up among the KIN member churches.

KCC has been asked to bring **Laundry Detergent—size 50-64 oz bottles of liquid detergent or boxes of powdered laundry detergent. (not Costco size).** Any brand is OK.



This is in addition to the laundry detergent that we have already collected. You can bring your donations any Sunday during the month of November. As an alternative, donations can be given to our Common Cents fund and we will purchase items for you.

Please remember, as with all of our Monthly Mission Projects, your participation is completely voluntary.

Also, we have committed to providing 2 boxes of food for the Nourishing Network School Break Boxes. Due to your generous donations last spring, we have most of the items needed for the 2 boxes and will purchase the fresh produce and missing items with Common Cents Funds.

by Gale P



**Thank you to each of you who participated in our Healthy Start for Kids during the 40 Days of Prayer for Children.**

**You were very generous!**

**We collected:**

- 6 - bottles of Laundry Detergent***
- 31 - pkgs of Baby Wipes***
- 19 - bottles of Baby Shampoo***
- 7 - pkgs of 4 rolls of Toilet Tissue***
- 12 - boxes of Facial Tissue***
- 31 - large tubes of Toothpaste***
- 54 - Toothbrushes***
- 17 - Bars of Bath Soap***
- 319 - individual Diapers and Pull-ups***

**Also, many of you donated to the Common Cents Fund which allowed us to purchase many of these items on your behalf. A recent deposit of Common Cents coins and cash totaled \$204.00.**

**These items have been delivered to Hopelink!**

by Gale P

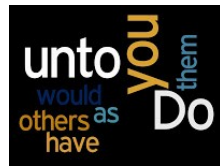
# Living the Season after Pentecost

The weeks between Pentecost Day through to Reign of Christ Sunday are known in the church as the Season after Pentecost, or Ordinary Time. This is a season of celebrating God's presence in everything – in all creation, in the stories of our past and our dreams for the future, in our groaning and our praying.

The second half of the Pentecost season is focused on building and nurturing community. It's a time to examine how we can be the disciples God has called us to be. We have Jesus as our example – teaching, healing, and inspiring the community to grow in faith, hope, and love.

## November 4th – The Way of Love      All Saints Sunday

Ruth 1:1–18  
Psalm 146  
Hebrews 9:11–14  
Mark 12:28–34



### All Saints Day alternative texts:

Isaiah 25:6–9 or  
Wisdom 3:1–9  
Psalm 24  
John 11:32–44  
Revelation 21:1–6a



### Something to think about, talk about or do

Jesus shares the Greatest Commandment with his disciples: To love God and to love your neighbour. The idea that our closeness to God will feed and be fed by caring for our community can be a solid foundation to build a life of faith.

What steps can you take to strengthen this foundation?

### Together this week

Think about examples of “loving God” and “loving neighbour” in your church, community, or the wider world.

\*Who or what stands out to you?

\*What have you learned from these

examples?

\*What's one thing you can do this week to emulate their devotion?

### Prayer

*Creator God, you call us to love you, to love our neighbor. When we fall short, remind us through the actions of others that we are only one prayer or deed of kindness away from turning back to you. Amen.*

## November 11th – The Way of Giving and Receiving

Ruth 3:1–5; 4:13–17  
Psalm 127  
Hebrews 9:24–28  
Mark 12:38–44



### Something to think about, talk about or do

The sacrifice of the widow in the treasury is a powerful reminder of how, no matter our financial circumstances, giving to others can lead to a spiritual experience of gratitude and thanksgiving. Jesus recognizes the meaning behind a gift. He sees the person behind a gift.

### Together this week

Skip a regular treat (read: expense) and give the money you save to a charity or



cause that is important to you.

\*Talk about what this sacrifice means to you with your family or group and brainstorm ideas for other ways to creatively give to others.

### **Prayer**

*Generous God, we have so much to be thankful for – even when we forget it. Help us to give abundantly, whatever that means for each one of us. Amen.*

## **November 18th – The Way of Faithfulness**

1 Samuel 1:4–20

1 Samuel 2:1–10

Hebrews 10:11–14, (15–18), 19–25

**Mark 13:1–8**



### **Something to think about, talk about or do**

Hearing Jesus talk about the destruction of the temple in this week's focus scripture can be unsettling in a time filled with war, natural disaster, climate change, and human destruction. Name some of your concerns and fears about these unsettled times. Discuss these with your family or group.

### **Together this week**

Pray using a map and sticky notes.

\*Find an atlas or map of the world. Write prayers for specific places and people and put them on the map where they are located.

\*Refer to your map when you pray as a family or group.

### **Prayer**

*Loving God, calm our anxieties and fears about what we see happening in the world around us. Help us remember that you are present, as you were with the disciples, even in challenging times. Amen.*

## **November 25th – Reign of Christ**

2 Samuel 23:1–7

Psalms 132:1–12, (13–18)

Revelation 1:4b–8

**John 18:33–37**



### **Something to think about, talk about or do**

In this week's focus scripture, Jesus shows us how to sacrifice while serving others. He says, "For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth." His truth would lead him to make the ultimate sacrifice for humankind.

Thinking about Jesus and the examples of those who serve and sacrifice for the good of others in today's world can inspire us to serve and sacrifice for others as well.

### **Together this week**

As a family or group, look through newspapers, magazines, or online news together to find examples of people who are making sacrifices and serving others as Jesus did.

\*Read about their lives and sacrifices and then share what you found with your family or group.

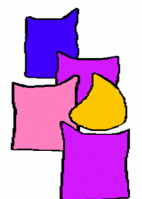
\*You can also cut out images, headlines, or phrases and put them on a poster board to draw specific attention to these servant leaders throughout the week.

\*Keep adding to your collage as the week goes on.

### **Prayer**

*Loving God, your son has taught us how to love and serve. May we follow Jesus' example and serve others in our communities, especially the poor and those on the margins.*

## **December 2nd- 1st Sunday of Advent**



## Global Ministries missionary visits on November 14th

Kirkland Congregational UCC and Lake Washington Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are joining together to welcome Loren McGrail to Kirkland on November 14<sup>th</sup>. We will gather with Rev. McGrail at Lake Washington Christian Church at 7pm to hear about her inspiring work. Rev. McGrail has served two terms with the YWCA of Palestine. This appointment is through the Common Global Ministries Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ.



Rev. McGrail is the Communications, Advocacy, and Church Relations Officer for the YWCA of Palestine. She writes and edits newsletters, statements, and Action Alerts. She coordinates the advocacy projects which include: The Fabric of Our Lives, Breaking Down the Wall, The Wise Women Also Came, and The Flight into Egypt. She meets with church groups/delegations. She is also the Advocacy Officer for the Joint Advocacy Initiative (JAI) and edits their on-line newsletter Eye on Palestine and works with the Olive Tree Campaign. She also serves the Church of Scotland as one of their ecumenical partners.



### Kirkland Congregational Church Prayer List



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

Jesse A  
Dorris K  
Judy H

Jerry R  
Ruth W

Sarah J  
Barbara 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



**Faith Uncorked** is a small gathering of folks who come together to share in conversation about various faith topics, from the perspective of progressive Christian theology. Come and experience wonderful, thoughtful, and at times, challenging discussions, while respecting each person's point of view.

Enjoy tasty hors d'oeuvres and a glass of wine or non-alcoholic beverage.

Where: Pat J's

When: Tuesday, November 13th  
7:00 PM

Bring: Favorite bottle of wine  
or non-alcoholic beverage,  
an hors d'oeuvre to share

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

## Kirkland Reads:

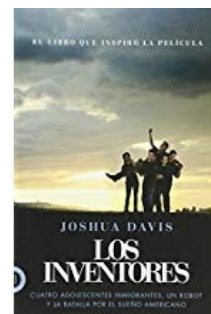
### Creating Conversations

#### Final Event Nov. 3rd

We will be showing the prize-winning documentary film *"Underwater Dreams,"* which is about building the robot, as well as what the former students are doing some years later.

(I hope many of you have read the chosen book *"Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot, and the Battle for the American Dream."*)

The event is at the Kirkland Teen Union Building, located at 348 Kirkland Avenue behind the Kirkland Community Center, at 3:00pm



(Shop at the KIN Fair first!)



## Fostering Interfaith Relationships on the Eastside (FIRE).

The next potluck Dinner Dialogue is Sunday, Nov. 11th, 5-8 pm, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7720 126th Ave. NE, Kirkland (south Rose Hill).

The discussion topic will be "What's it like to be a \_\_\_\_\_?". Invited panel members include followers of these faiths: Bahai, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, and, for the first time, Zoroastrian. This is a wonderful chance to learn about other faiths and share ours. (And the food is great!)

Sunday, November 11th, FIRE Dinner Dialogue, 5-8PM at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7720 126th Ave NE, Kirkland.





## Kirkland Interfaith Network (KIN) Alternative Gift Fair,

Sat. Nov. 3rd, 10-4, Peter Kirk Community Center, 352 Kirkland Ave.

### Looking for the perfect gift?

At the KIN Alternative Gift Fair, you can donate in the name of your gift recipient to wonderful local, national, and international nonprofit organizations. Over two dozen organizations will be represented at the Fair.

For example, donate in the name of your gift recipient to Habitat for Humanity or to the Hero Rat organization (rats trained to remove landmines). The recipient gets a card announcing your gift and probably learns something, too. You get to support a good cause and give a lasting present. The popular Fair Trade merchant, 10,000 Villages, will also be there. Plenty of parking available. See the bulletin board in the lounge for more information.



# COME TO THE TABLE

**Sunday, November 18th  
5:30pm**

**Worship, Soup and Salad Dinner,  
Music, Community  
106 5th Ave — Kirkland**

**3rd Sunday of each month**

## **Kirkland City Prop 1 on Nov. 6 Ballot**

From Sarah J

This measure would increase community safety through greater police-community engagement (e.g., additional school resource officers), empowerment (e.g., mental health services), and education (e. g., teaching gun safety). See the lounge bulletin board or city website: <https://www.kirklandwa.gov>.

## **Looking Ahead to December**

**Mark your Calendar today!**

You don't want to miss these.

**Sunday, December 2nd**

*First Sunday of Advent~ with  
lighting of first Advent  
Candle*

**Advent Fellowship Event  
for All Ages—following  
worship:**

**Lunch**

***“The Hanging of the  
Greens”***

We will decorate the  
Sanctuary and Lounge and share  
soup together.

***Ornament Making—Make  
It; Take It***

6 different ornaments to chose  
from.

***“Tree of Angels” ~ The Tree of  
Angels will be up and the gift  
tags will be placed on the tree  
and available after worship  
for your choosing.***

***Advent Home Candle***

***Lighting Guide ~ available in  
Narthex.***

***Advent Prayer Tree placed in  
the Narthex***

**Sunday, December 16th**

***Special Presentation of  
Christmas Story***

***“Tree of Angels” gifts  
returned to church to be  
distributed to Attain.***

*Many of you asked about getting a copy of the press release that the clergy of the GKEP put out in response to the racist flyers posted around Kirkland. Here is the release:*

In response to the flyers recently posted in the Kirkland area by supporters of a Neo-Nazi group, the clergy of the Greater Kirkland Ecumenical Parish (GKEP) stand united in affirming the dignity and worth of people of all racial backgrounds, ethnic origins, genders, sexual orientations, religions, and abilities. The posting of flyers of this sort is an affront to the values of our community and our faiths, and we are compelled by our faith to speak out and work to counter the seeds of discord, hatred, fear, and intimidation that these flyers promote.

We are people who are guided by our deep and abiding faith in a loving God, and we find it repugnant that this bigotry and hatred has been brought to our community. Our churches celebrate that Kirkland is made up of people of many racial backgrounds, of people who come from a diversity of countries of origin, and of people who practice many faiths. We believe that we are all created as holy by our God.

Rather than merely ignoring these posters and hoping that racism and hatred will fail to find a foothold in Kirkland, our faith calls us to respond. As such, our faithful response to those who seek to sow hatred in our community is to offer love and compassion to all people. Our faithful response to those who seek to sow division is to open our doors and welcome stranger and friend alike. Our faithful response to those who are inciting fear is to work diligently for peace and justice in our community and our world. We pray that our community can stand united in the effort to meet racism and divisive rhetoric with love.

Faithfully,

### **The Greater Kirkland Ecumenical Parish**

Rev. Kurt Nagel  
Holy Family Catholic Church

Rev. Michael Anderson  
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Rev. Katy McCallum Sachse  
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Rev. Ryan Lambert  
Kirkland Congregational United Church of Christ

Rev. Kara Markell  
Lake Washington Christian Church

Rev. David Van Heyningen  
Lake Washington United Methodist Church

Rev. Jim VanderWeele  
Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church

Rev. Sara Wolbrecht  
Salt House Church

Rev. Lance Ousley  
St. John's Episcopal Church

## From the Deacons

by Pat J

November's weather can often be rather chilly and dark.

Here is your opportunity to make it a brighter time.



Help set up and provide "goodies" for coffee hour November 11th or November 25th. We also need Lay Leaders for worship on these two days!



"If life becomes hard, soften it with random acts of kindness."  
Michael Levy

# Happy

# Thanksgiving