



The Good News

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

When I was a youth our church youth choir went on a music ministry tour every summer. Each evening we would arrive in a new community where we would perform a concert, do home-stays with members of the host congregation, and then we would gather at the church early the next morning for our call time to board the bus to head to our next concert. The host churches were responsible for our home-stays, giving us a place to perform, and providing an evening meal before the concert. Most often this took the form of potluck meals...casseroles, pasta, fried chicken, salads, and cookies. Along with the occasional mystery food I would often hear mentions of church favorites like "Mary's chicken," "the Archer's salad," or "Ralph's pie." These were the dishes that everyone knew and looked forward to eating, and I would always gravitate to those beloved favorites as safe choices. No matter how good the potluck dinners were on the road we always looked forward to the one our home church offered before our last concert...plentiful, well-known favorites in a familiar space.

In my youth choir days I thought of potluck meals as an easy and familiar choice, but as an adult I have come to understand that they take a little more thought and planning than just throwing random food on a table. As someone who is at least nominally in-charge at such events I often over think what to bring; What if someone else brings a spinach salad? What if there are too many desserts? Should we bring a vegetarian dish, a protein, or an appetizer? What if we only have time to grab some chips and salsa? What shall we bring?

But, what shall we bring isn't just a question for potluck dinners? This year it is also that theme for our stewardship campaign. I would suggest that similar to bringing the right dish to a dinner, many of us wrestle with what to bring to support our church and its ministries. Am I bringing enough? What if I can't give as much as last year? How do I decide how much to give?

Our stewardship theme is ***"What shall we bring?"*** We are trying some new things with our stewardship campaign this year. First, we are starting earlier. We are kicking off our campaign on October 21st and we would like all pledges in on November 18th...when we will celebrate and give thanks together. We are also putting together a narrative budget that tells the story of how our pledges, our building, and our time and talent come together to create the ministry known at Kirkland Congregational United Church of Christ. And finally, we are going to be doing congregational visits during the month of our campaign to capture your stories and your passions as we build our budget and our ministry for 2019.

Finally, I want to return to the potluck and note that the potluck is only successful if everyone brings something and if everyone stays around to eat. Potluck meals are popular at churches because they are a living metaphor for the church—everyone brings something to share. As we begin our stewardship campaign I celebrate that we are blessed with a community that shares of itself, and I look forward to continuing to grow together in our generosity.

Blessings,

Ryan

What's Happening on Sunday during October?

by Gale P.

Beginning on Sunday, October 7th, the popular Soup Sunday will return.

1st Sunday of Month ~ Soup Sunday

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



Sunday, October 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th ~ 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 October 21st ~

• *Children's Sabbath:*

This celebrates the completion of our 40 Days of Prayer for Children and a focus on the theme of this year's Children's Sabbath:

**“Realizing Dr. King’s Vision for Every Child:
Lives of Hope, Not Despair”**



• *The Table:*

Worship, Soup and Salad Dinner,
Music and Community
Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm



Thank You from the Deacons

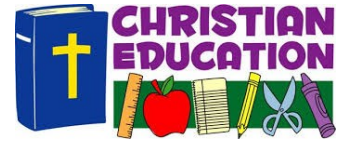
As the weather gets colder and the leaves begin changing, consider sharing a favorite soup recipe for Soup Sundays, Oct. 7th and November 4th. If you do not cook, you can provide bread, crackers and butter.

Another short term need is serving as lay leader for Oct. 7, 21, and 28th. All are invited; we have a good microphone system, copies of larger print Scripture, and comfy chairs if standing is a challenge.

Thank you to all for sharing in September, especially those who share their smiles and friendly greetings to both visitors and members.

Pat J.

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,
October 15th
Helliwell Room
7:00 pm**

KCC UCC Church Council

**Monday,
October 22nd
Helliwell Room
7:00 pm**



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 persons' point of view.

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

Where: Home of TBA

When: Tuesday, October 9th
7:00 PM

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

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



This year, KCC will be working together with the Bellevue First Congregational Church and the Northshore UCC to create a confirmation class of youth; 7th-12th grade. They will meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the afternoon, beginning October 14th at the Bellevue Church.

Confirmation will take place on Pentecost Sunday, June 9th.

Contact Ryan for more details

Lay Pastoral Care Team Meeting
Wednesday, October 17th
Home of Jo H.



Living the Season of Pentecost 2



by Gale P.

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. If your group or family is looking for some ideas for connecting with one another or with new friends this season, consider the following:

Volunteer: Expand your community this season by volunteering as a group with a new project or nonprofit. If there is an outreach ministry at your church that you haven't been a part of, start there. Or look outside your church at the local organizations that are helping those who are marginalized the homeless, the hungry, people with mental illness, victims of

October 7th: *Tough Questions along the Way*

Job 1:1; 2:1–10
Psalm 26
Hebrews 1:1–4; 2:5–12
Mark 10:2–16



Something to think about, talk about, or do

As people bring their children to see Jesus, the disciples try to shush them and push them aside. Jesus wants to expand our ideas about community. Everyone – no matter their age, abilities, background, education, race, gender/ sexual identity – belongs.

Together this week

Hands across the community:

*Gather a piece of card stock or heavy paper (poster board if this is a larger group), paint, paintbrush or large ink pad. Paint your hands and make handprints on the card stock, wait for each person's handprint to dry a bit so they can overlap.

*Write everyone's name next to their hands. Put this somewhere you can see it this week and be reminded of the many different people and experiences (and hands) that make up your community.

Prayer

Loving God, help me to have the faith of a child – to trust, to love, to rely on you to guide my steps. Help me to welcome others as you said to the little children, “Come, you are welcome and loved here.” Amen.

October 14th: *Finding Our Way*

Job 23:1–9, 16–17
Psalm 22:1–15
Hebrews 4:12–16
Mark 10:17–31



Something to think about, talk about or do

In this week's gospel story, Jesus tries to teach us a few key lessons about what it means to follow his way. The idea of not only following God's commandments but also making sure that caring for the poor and marginalized is a priority, can be difficult. We might on one level agree with the idea that “the last shall be first,” but when God requires us to make sacrifices, we sometimes struggle to follow God's way.

Together this week

De-clutter. Jesus tells the rich man to sell all of his possessions.

*This week, commit to de-cluttering one closet or one shelf or one drawer in your space. (Bonus challenge: Do all three!) You can do this together as a family or offer support and accountability to your group (commit to a deadline or a day to de-clutter and check in via text or email).

*Give away things that can still be used. If your church or community has a ministry that gives away clothes, consider donating items there.

*Learning to live more simply is one way we can follow Jesus' example.

Prayer

God of the least and the last, show us how we can make others a priority. Help us understand that sacrifice is how we can grow closer to you. Amen.

October 21st: A New Way

Job 38:1–7, (34–41)

Psalms 104:1–9, 24, 35c

Hebrews 5:1–10

Mark 10:35–45



Something to think about, talk about or do

Jesus continues to show the disciples a different way to live. When the world pushes us to achieve more, race to the top, succeed for ourselves or our families at the cost of others, Jesus says, “Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant.”

This week, think about how you can be of service to others.

Together this week

*Think of a person or family who is going through a difficult time. Plan a meal to give to the family. First, contact them to see if there are any allergies or dietary needs. Next, decide what you will make. Your family can cook and deliver the meal together. Your group can divide up the menu and come together to assemble your meal.

*Write personal notes or inspiration scripture/quotes on colorful note cards and pack them with the food.

Prayer

Loving God, who teaches us to serve, remind us that as the world moves forward around us, striving for success, you call us to stop, serve others, and remember those who are cast aside. Amen.

October 28th – The Way of Exclusion

Job 42:1–6, 10–17

Psalms 34:1–8, (19–22)

Hebrews 7:23–28

Mark 10:46–52



Something to think about, talk about or do

The Gospels are full of stories of Jesus being at the center of healing others. He tells Bartimaeus that his faith has made him well. If we've been sick, or known someone who's been sick, and haven't felt that our faith has helped to heal us, these stories might challenge us.

But we can be assured that Jesus is ready to welcome and comfort those who are hurting, calling us to his side.

Together this week

***Prayer chain** On strips of paper, write down the names of people or situations that are in need of healing. Connect the strips of paper to make a chain. Hang it where you can see it and use it as a reminder to pray for others this week.

*Every day, pray together, as a family or group, for everyone/everything on your chain.

Prayer

Loving God, remember all those in need of healing this day. Be a presence of comfort, love, security in uncertain times. Amen.

PRAYER
changes things

**Light
A
CANDLE
FOR
CHILDREN**



Thank you to all who are participating in the Forty Days of Prayer for Children. The response has been wonderful. Each week, as we journey towards the Children's Sabbath on October 21st we watch the light of God's love grow, crowding out the darkness of our life today.

Children's Sabbath

"Realizing Dr. King's Vision for Every Child: Lives of Hope, Not Despair "

"God has told you , O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6: 8

Our congregation will join thousands of congregations nationwide to celebrate the 27th annual National Interfaith Observance of Children's Sabbaths. Together, through our service of worship, education programs, and congregational activities, we will learn more about the all too silent emergency of children's unmet needs. Together we will rededicate ourselves to walking as God's partner to improve the lives of children throughout the weeks and months and year to come.

**Join us on Sunday, October 21st
at 10:30 AM Worship**



Children's Sabbath ~ 18th Annual Healthy Start Project

**This year we will continue our expanded
Children's Sabbath Mission focus.**

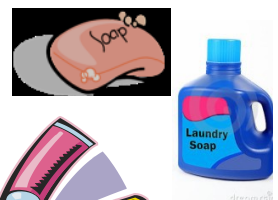
What other needs do the families serviced by HopeLink have that limit their efforts to provide a healthy home for their children???

Each of the 5 weeks during the 40 Days of Prayer, you are asked to bring these specially designated items to church, culminating on Children's Sabbath Sunday, October 21st. If it is difficult for you to get out to shop, contributions to the Common Cents Fund are an excellent alternative — we will shop for you.

Week of September 30—**shop for Facial Tissue and Bathroom Tissue**
Return items on Sunday, October 7.



Week of October 7—**shop for Bath soap and Laundry detergent**
Return items on Sunday, October 14.



Week of October 14— **shop for Toothbrushes and Toothpaste**
Return items on Sunday, October 21.



Let's make this happen !!!

Child Poverty

3 million

The number of children living in families surviving on \$2 a day per person in the U.S.

Child Hungry and Nutrition

1 in 5

The proportion of children in the U.S. living in food-insecure households

Gun Violence

8

The number of children and teens killed with guns each day in U.S.

Children's Defense Fund statistics

Moments in America for All Children

Every 2 seconds Public school student suspended*

Every 9 seconds High school student drops out*

Every 20 seconds Baby born to an unmarried mother

Every 31 seconds Child is arrested

Every 43 seconds Public school student corporally punished*

Every 49 seconds Baby born into poverty

Every 47 seconds Child confirmed abused or neglected

Every 2 minutes Baby born without health insurance

Every 2 minutes Baby born into extreme poverty

Every 3 minutes Baby born to teen mother

Every 2 minutes Baby born at low birth weight

Every 5 minutes Child arrested for drug offense

Every 9 minutes Child arrested for violent offense

Every 23 minutes Baby dies before first birthday

Every 66 minutes Child or teen dies from accident

Every 3 hours and 8 minutes Child or teen killed by firearm

Every 3 hours 33 minutes Child or teen commits suicide

Every 5 hours 33 minutes Child killed by abuse or neglect

Every 11 hours 8 minutes Mother dies from complications of childbirth or pregnancy

*Based on 180 school days a year

State of America's Children 2017 /
Children's Defense Fund

by Gale P.

Each Day in America for All Children

2 mothers die from complications of childbirth.

4 children are killed by abuse or neglect.

7 children or teens commit suicide.

8 children or teens are killed by guns

22 children or teens die from accidents.

37 children or teens are injured with a gun.

45 children or teens are injured or killed with a gun.

64 babies die before their first birthdays.

167 children are arrested for violent crimes.

311 children are arrested for drug crimes.

566 babies are born to teen mothers.

879 babies are born at low birth weight.

927 public school students are corporally punished.*

912 babies are born into extreme poverty.

1,414 babies are born without health insurance.

1,903 children are confirmed as abused or neglected.

1,759 babies are born into poverty.

2,805 children are arrested.

2,857 high school students drop out.*

4,388 babies are born to unmarried mothers.

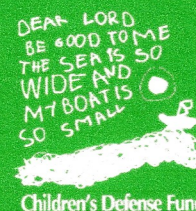
12,816 public school students are suspended.*

- Based on 180 school days a year.



The State of America's Children® in WASHINGTON

2017 Factsheet



Child Population

- **1,629,498** children lived in Washington in 2016.
- **43 percent** were children of color: 4 percent were Black; 21 percent were Hispanic; 7 percent were Asian; and 1 percent were American Indian/Alaska Native.

Child Poverty

- **14 percent** of Washington's children were poor in 2016—a total of **219,668** children—and children of color were disproportionately poor.
- **36 percent** of Black, **24 percent** of Hispanic and **9 percent** of White children were poor.
- **6 percent** of children were extremely poor (their family had income at less than half the poverty level).
- **14 percent** of children under 6 were poor.

Income and Wealth Inequality

- **\$81,100** was the median income for White families with children compared with **\$49,600** for Black and **\$40,800** for Hispanic families in 2015.

Housing and Homelessness

- **35,511** homeless children were enrolled in public schools during 2014-2015.
- **2.1 full-time jobs** at minimum wage were needed for a family to afford a two-bedroom rental unit at fair market rent in 2016.

Child Hunger and Nutrition

- **19 percent** of children lived in food-insecure households in 2015.
- **26 percent** of children 10-17 were overweight or obese in 2016.
- **24 percent** relied on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in FY2015.
- **90 percent** of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch during the school year did not participate in Summer Nutrition Programs in 2016.

Child Health

- **41,436** children 0-17 were uninsured in 2016.
- **896,929** children 0-18 were enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid) and Apple Health for Kids (Children's Health Insurance Program).

Early Childhood

- **\$13,110** was the average annual cost for an infant in center-based child care in 2015.
- **9 percent** of 4-year-olds were enrolled in state-funded preschool during 2015-2016.

Education

- **75 percent** of Black, **83 percent** of Hispanic and **51 percent** of White 4th grade public school students could not read at grade level in 2015.
- **78 percent** of Black, **81 percent** of Hispanic and **55 percent** of White 8th grade public school students could not read at grade level in 2015.
- **69 percent** of Black, **70 percent** of Hispanic and **81 percent** of White students graduated high school on time during 2014-2015.
- **19 percent** of Black, **11 percent** of Hispanic and **7 percent** of White public secondary students had at least one out-of-school suspension in 2011-2012.

Child Welfare

- **5,894** children were abused or neglected in 2015.
- **10,959** children were in foster care on the last day of FY2016.

Juvenile Justice

- **921** children were in residential placement in 2015. **22 percent** were Black; **20 percent** were Hispanic; and **43 percent** were White.
- **0** children were in adult jails or prisons in 2015.

Gun Violence

- **67** children and teens (3.8 per 100,000) were killed with a gun in 2015.

Note: All numbers in this factsheet are included in the Children's Defense Fund's *The State of America's Children*® 2017 report, and most have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Facts for states and the District of Columbia were omitted when data were not available. Citations for all data may be found in *The State of America's Children*® 2017.

Happenings around Kirkland

45th Legislative District Candidate Form

On Monday October 15th at 7pm the Holy Spirit Lutheran Church (10021 NE 124th Street) hosts an opportunity to meet the candidates for the State Senate and House of Representatives in the 45th Legislative District. The program offers the candidates an opportunity to make an opening statement, answer questions prepared by the organizing committee as well as questions from the audience. The forum provides the opportunity to hear the opinions and positions of these candidates on the important issues our community and state need to address.

Volunteers needed on November 3rd

Volunteers are needed for the November 3rd Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) final simulation drill. This is the "final exam" for CERT students to demonstrate their search/rescue and first aid skills.

We need **28** volunteer "victims", who are assigned dramatic roles and specific injuries. A professional make-up artist applies moulage make-up and prosthetics to realistically simulate injuries. This is an all-day role. "Victims" are scheduled to arrive between 7:30am and 9:45am and are expected to stay for the duration of the drill, which ends at 3:00pm.

When you register you will be given a choice of several moulage make-up options. We do our best to honor your preferences, but due to the amount of time it takes to apply full make-up, we can't guarantee that everyone who requests "The Works!" will get it. We also cannot guarantee specific injuries. We do guarantee you will have lots of opportunities to demonstrate your acting skills!

To register: <http://www.kirklandcert.com/event-3079576>



Kirkland Congregational Church Prayer List



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

Jerry Rutherford
Ruth Wiesen

Sarah Johnson
Barbara Lynch

Dorris Knibb
Judy Hjorth

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.

*An Ancient Tradition—A New Way
Exploring faith through music, food and community*

COME TO THE TABLE

The Table returns. . .

“In This Together”

**Sunday, October 21st
5:30pm**

Worship, Soup and Salad Dinner, Music, Community

**106 5th Ave — Kirkland
3rd Sunday of each month**

Confirmation

KCC is joining with Northshore UCC and Bellevue 1st Congregational Church to offer a confirmation program this year. Confirmation is open for youth in 7th-12th grades and the first gathering will be on October 14th.

PROGRAM BASICS

The Christian Faith is not just a “what” it’s a “how”—learning the practices of our community and learning to be a follower of Jesus. It’s ok not to know if you want to be Confirmed when you start the process—we are asking you to try out some of the practices of faith to learn more.

Some of these “fundamentals” will vary with each congregation, but overall the basics of preparing for confirmation include:

- Attend worship regularly
- Eight class meetings
- Mentor relationships
- Local church project and writing of a Faith Statement

EIGHT CLASS MEETINGS

With all confirmands from the three congregations---7th grade through 12th graders welcome to participate. Dive deep into topics ranging from a brief history of the church, what is the UCC?, sacraments, bible basics, prayer, forgiveness, and call. Class sessions lead by pastors.

Confirmation Dates-Locations-Themes

All Times: 6:30-8:30 pm – location meeting vary and are noted below.

October 14 th -Bellevue First UCC	Introductions/Covenant/Expectations etc.
November 11th-Kirkland UCC	Bible
December 9th-Northshore UCC	Sacraments and Worship
January 13th-Bellevue First UCC	Church and UCC History
February 10th-Kirkland UCC	Metaphors of Faith (Trinity etc.)
March 10th-Northshore UCC	Forgiveness and Grace
April 28th-Kirkland UCC	Mission and Justice
May 5th-Northshore UCC	UCC Faith Statement and intro to writing faith statements
June 9th-Pentecost	Confirmation at each church during morning worship

MENTOR RELATIONSHIPS

2 mentors from your local congregation to journey with you through the year. We ask of you and your mentor:

- Attend worship twice with them beside you and discuss afterwards at fellowship hour
- Visit another faith community’s worship together – any denomination or religion—and report back to the group about your adventure
- Conversations with you mentors over coffee or (or dinner with your whole family!)
- Background check form—per Safeconduct policy at your local church
- Check with your local church pastor about how to “get” your mentors!

LOCAL CHURCH PROJECTS

- Serve your local community in some way—for example: a food drive, visit an elder, serve a meal for the homeless
- participate in leadership of worship at least once (for example: lector, sing in the choir or serve communion)
- write a “faith statement” (or draw!) about why this journey towards confirmation is important to you – you local pastor can help you with this!

BAPTISM

Confirmation is an affirmation of our baptism. We can certainly discuss this sacrament as part of the confirmation journey if you have not been baptized.

by Ryan



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

“PLEASE, WON’T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?”

There used to be a program which aired on PBS; *Mr. Roger’s Neighborhood*. Fred Rogers was a friendly, non-threatening-presence, who helped children, as well as adults, cope with things that they experienced in the world; many of which they found frightening. At the opening of each episode, he sang a little ditty, inviting all to be his neighbor, “It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood. It’s a beautiful day for a neighbor. Would you be mine? Could you be mine?”

In similar fashion, Altadena Community Church in Altadena, CA wanted to know their neighbors better as well as tackle the sensitive subject matter of mental illness. So, in October 2017, they offered a free Mental Health First Aid Training for community leaders and first responders, sponsored in part with a Neighbors in Need Grant. 25 people registered.

(continued next page)

(continued from page 13)

The church's leadership wanted to raise the communities awareness of mental health with the hope of reducing the stigma associated with it. Issues of public safety were to be addressed; hence the leadership at Altadena Community Church believed that providing mental health first aid training could prove beneficial for all.

"Awareness of mental health as a justice issue has grown in the congregation", said Associate Pastor, Kelli Parrish Lucas. Furthermore, she stated "there is a growing awareness in the church that there is need to distinguish between actual danger and acute mental health symptoms which some may perceive as potential dangers or something to fear. The Mental Health First Aid Trainings have prompted congregational awareness that there are safe ways to engage in situations that involve mental health crises." Many participating agreed.

One participant who attended the free two-half day training sessions had this to say about it, "Thank you so much for this training. I have already told others about it and I think it is a very essential training to do and partake in."

When asked whether the discussion on disability awareness and justice, added or detracted, from the topic of mental health, another attendee replied, "This was my favorite discussion. Because I deal with this on a daily basis, it was easy for me to provide my input on the subject. With relation to mental health, I think it was a good conversation to have."

As a part of our World Communion Sunday worship on October 7th we will be collecting a special offering to support Neighbors in Need.

Children's Sabbath

In the Children's Sabbath 2018 booklet, the names of David S. and Benjamin G. were inadvertently omitted from the Young Adults (ages 18-30) listing on pages 10-11.

David is 27, Ben is 19. They are the grandsons of Ele and Jim N.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Our office administrator, Terri will be out of the office beginning October 1st, returning October 10th. Gale and Ryan will be checking phone messages and emails during her absence. Or, please feel free to contact Ryan on his cell phone.



Happy



Fall!!

