



The Good News

A Newsletter for Friends and Members
of Kirkland Congregational United Church of Christ
September 2019



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,

September means shorter and cooler days, the beginning of school, and the kick-off of the church year. In much the same way that students and teachers embark on new endeavors as the new school year begins September is a time when the church has something of a new start.

We begin the program year on September 8th with a Pancake Breakfast before worship. Come and enjoy pancakes, bacon, fruit, coffee, and juice beginning at 9:10. This is a great time to fuel up for the day and reconnect with each other before worship. In worship our liturgy will focus on the *Season of Creation* which stretches 4 weeks and guides to focus on creation and creation care. I believe we live in one of the most beautiful areas of the world, but we sometimes lose sight of our place in the whole of creation. This worship series will help us remember our abiding connection to the oceans, the world's plant life, the power of storms, and our place within the cosmos. We will be pairing creation-centered worship with education events that will help us learn about how activists and theologians alike are responding to the needs of our planet.

Our education events begin on September 15th with Grace L. and Kimaya M. speaking about the Youth Climate Strike movement. Grace and Kimaya are co-leads with the Washington State Youth Climate Strike organization and they will be sharing the story of how they got involved in this movement, why this movement matters to them and to us, and how we can get involved--including at the next strike that is taking place on September 20th! Our September 22nd and September 29th education hours will include a video from the Nobel Prize nominee Greta Thunberg and use of Jim Antal's book *"Climate Change, Climate World: Why should people of faith engage the moral challenge of climate change—and how should we do it?"* to guide us in how people of faith can and should engage this issue.

September also features the beginning of new small group experience that we are calling **Covenant Groups**. Covenant Groups are 10-12 people meeting together once a month to deepen their faith and connection to one another.

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KCC Office Closed

The office will be closed on
Monday, September 2nd in
observance of
Labor Day.

LABOR DAY



Kick-Off Sunday

Sunday, September 8

Pancake Breakfast: in the Lounge
Serving from 9:10-10:10



Sunday School Class: ages 6-12

Nursery Care: ages infant-5 years



Pick up your Candle and
Prayer Booklet for the
40 Days of Prayer for Children





Learning Opportunities

We will kick off the Fall 2019 Christian Education Program on **Sunday, September 8, 2019.**

The Christian Education Committee is at work planning a variety of learning opportunities to meet the needs of the congregation, from our youngest members to our adults.



Our Elementary aged children will participate in a multi-aged

program using the Seasons of the Spirit resources. This class will be for children ages 6-12.

Child care is provided by our Nursery Caretaker, Andrea M., for infants and toddlers through age 5, each Sunday, in the nursery beginning at 10:15 AM.

A variety of opportunities for learning and faith development will be provided for adults throughout the year. This will include our adult class on Sundays after worship. We will gather in the Helliwell Room at 12:05pm.

Also, **new** this year will be our Covenant Groups. There will be a daytime group and an evening group. (*See more information about the Covenant Groups in another article.*)

Music is a big part of our worship experience together. You are invited to be a part of our growing church choir. Rehearsals are at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. Contact Jim P. and let him know you are interested in being a part of our music program.

For All ages: Check out www.spiritseasons.com for Bible study groups, "Spirit Sightings" and an interactive "Action Zone" for kids.



Sunday, September 1:
Communion Sunday



Sunday, September 8:
Kick-Off Sunday ~
Pancake Breakfast
in Lounge 9:10am
Sunday School Class
Resumes



Wednesday, September 11:
40 Days of Prayer begins

Sunday, September 15:
Worship Service—10:30
Sunday School
Adult Education class 12:05 pm
Learn from *Grace L.*
and *Kimaya M.* about
their work as the state leads
for the Washington Youth
Climate Strike.

Sunday, September 22:
Worship Service—10:30
Sunday School
Adult Education class -
Video
on activism
for Climate Change,
with Greta Thunberg.



Sunday, September 29:
Worship Service—10:30
Sunday School
Adult Education class - 12:05pm
Continued focus on Climate

These 90 minute gatherings include time for prayer and checking-in, a short reading (1-2 paragraphs), guided spiritual conversation and individual sharing in response to the reading. Each gathering features a particular focus; topics include: Those who have touched our lives, our Spiritual Journeys, Listening, and Searching for Balance. We are hosting a **daytime Covenant Group that begins on September 30th and will meet at 12:30 pm on the last Monday of each month.** We are also starting an **evening Covenant Group that starts on October 1st and will meet at 7pm on the first Tuesday of each month.** Because each covenant group is limited to 12 people, we will be looking to start new groups as demand requires!

Finally, as we begin this program year we have identified that we need to “step up our game” when it comes to our church’s social media presence. I am looking for 2-3 collaborators to join me in helping to address this need. Perhaps you been looking for a way to get more involved at our church, but haven’t found the right way as yet? You might be the perfect person to help us share the story of our inclusive church community and God’s extravagant love via Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook? If you have ideas or want to help...let me know!

See you at church!

Ryan

Celebrate with Jim and Lisa!

Inconceivable!

Jim K. and Lisa G. have been married 35 years. Come one, come all to a celebration of mawwiage.

We invite you to join us at 1 pm on Saturday, September 7, as we renew our vows, à la The Princess Bride. Guests are encouraged to dress as villagers, pirates, or supporting characters.

Our re-wedding will be conducted by The Impressive Clergyman, Pastor Ryan L., at Kirkland Congregational United Church of Christ, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Please join us as we celebrate our joy and 3.5 decades of Twue Wove.



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.

Faith Uncorked will resume on **October 15th** and return to normal 2nd Tuesday schedule in November.

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



Soup Sundays

Our popular Soup Sundays will begin on Sunday, October 6. We will have Soup Sundays on the first Sunday of the month in October, November, January, February and March.

Each month we will be seeking 3 people to bring a pot of soup and 1 person to bring bread and butter. Watch for the sign up sheet in the narthex in the next couple of weeks or email Gale P. at: gale246@frontier.com to sign up for one of these months.



Youth Climate Strike WA

Kirkland Houghton Beach Park

On Friday, September 20, 2019, the Youth Climate Strike will be holding youth led rallies across the world to continue to call attention to the climate crisis that is building. The last large Washington climate strike was held in May, at Cal Anderson Park in Seattle by over 1,000 people.

On September 20, there will be an Eastside Rally held at the Kirkland Houghton Beach Park. It will begin at 1:30pm.

This is not just for students; it is for everyone that is concerned about the future of our planet.

Christian Education Committee

Next meeting date is:

Monday, September 16, 2019

Helliwell Room at 7:00pm

Church Council

Next meeting date is:

Monday, September 23, 2019

Helliwell Room at 7:00pm

Forty Days of Prayer for Children

Light A Candle for Children

Begins on Wednesday,
September 11, 2019

Light a Candle for Children, is an advocacy and prayer vigil project that invites congregations to join in **Forty Days of Prayer for Children**. It begins forty days prior to the national observance of **Children's Sabbath**. This year we will observe the Children's Sabbath on **October 20, 2019**

This Year Again!!!

Everyone will receive a votive candle holder with a wax or battery votive candle on:

Sunday, September 1, or September 8

**Along with our KCCUCC
Children's Prayer Booklet**



During the 40 days from September 11–
October 20, you are asked to set aside times

during the day to light your candle; reflect on the needs and gifts of children; and offer a prayer or share in a moment of silence remembering the children connected to our congregation in a variety of ways, as well as the needs of children in our community, state, country, and around the world.

You do not need to return the candle, but keep it to pray for children as often as you wish during the 40 Days of Prayer.

On Sunday mornings at KCC, we will place larger candles representing each of the 40 days, in the front of the sanctuary. These will be lit during the worship service and we will watch the flames grow in number as we journey towards Children's Sabbath Sunday.

We can and should make a difference where the needs, hopes and dreams of children are involved. Let the candle of their lives inspire you and light your pathway as you advocate on their behalf.



Children's Sabbath 19th 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???**

The Food Bank Coordinator for HopeLink provided us with a list of 8 items that are extremely important to these families, especially because they can not buy them with their EBT cards (an electronic benefit transfer card).

Each of the 5 weeks during the 40 Days of Prayer, you are asked to bring the designated items to church, culminating on Children's Sabbath Sunday. 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.

During the week of September 15— **shop for Baby Wipes and Baby Shampoo**
Return items to church on Sunday September 22.

Week of September 22 — **shop for Diapers (sizes 5 & 6) and Pull Ups**
Return items on Sunday, September 29.

Week of September 29— **shop for Facial Tissue and Bathroom Tissue**
Return items on Sunday, October 6.

Week of October 6 — **shop for Bath soap and Laundry detergent**
Return items on Sunday, October 13.

Week of October 13 — **shop for Toothbrushes and Toothpaste**
Return items on Sunday, October 20.

Each week during the Offering Time, you will be invited to bring your donated items forward to be dedicated during the Prayer of Dedication.

Let's make this happen !!!





Living the Season of Creation

The Season of Creation is now being celebrated in a number of countries around the world. Aqua, the blue green colour of the planet Earth when viewed from outer space, invites us into the Season of Creation, and the pulsing of God's spirit that moves in and through all creation. stirred that, as part of creation, we might praise God!

Everywhere we look, we see elements of God's creation – trees, animals, streams, oceans, the stars, and more. What parts of God's natural world do you see around you right now? As children of creation, we are called to love and care for all its many elements. The Season of Creation is a time to focus on the beauty and intricacy of God's creation and be sure we don't take it for granted.

We live in a world affected by global warming, overconsumption, and pollution from fossil fuels. Our actions have had dire consequences for our planet. God created a world that is interconnected, joined and held together in a complex web of related parts. The Season of Creation invites us into a relationship with the natural elements that surround us, to consider how creation works, how it flows and moves around us every day. We sometimes lose sight of the importance of Creation in our lives. We take for granted God's divine wisdom in Creation – the elements of Creation that work together perfectly to sustain all life.

During these four weeks of this Season of Creation, we hear divine wisdom in oceans, flora, and fauna, storms and the cosmos.

September 1, 2019 ~ Let's Be the Church

Jeremiah 2:4–13

Psalms 81:1, 10–16

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

Luke 14:1, 7–14



Something to think about, talk about or do

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16 talks about hospitality, and welcoming others. In church, we seek to be a hospitable community, showing God's love to all. In Christian community, we have a code for living. In our families as well as our churches, we strive to be welcoming, encouraging and supporting. Jesus reminds us to invite those who might not usually get invited; to welcome in the people who are left out.

Together this week

****Write a household code for living.**
List what is important to live in community and love, where all are valued.

Prayer

Welcoming God, May our household be an example of your love and welcoming ways to all. Amen.

September 8, 2019 ~ Oceans

Job 38:1–18

Psalms 104:1–9, 24–26

Ephesians 1:3–10

Luke 5:1–11



Something to think about, talk about or do

God created a world that is interconnected, joined together in a complex web of related parts. God holds all these things together – and expects us to help.

The complexity and expanse of Creation are greater than we can understand. God laid the foundation of Earth. God said to the ocean, “thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped” (Job 38:11). That is one powerful God.

Together this week

****Talk about the web of life that is connected to the ocean/river/ stream/ wetlands that are close to you.**

****Make a list of the things that might harm that web of life.**

****Say a prayer for the people who are working to keep your local water ways free of pollution**

****On a computer with Internet access go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=en4XzfR0FE8> to watch Charles Moore’s TED talk, “The Great Pacific Plastic Trash Island.”**

Prayer

O God, thank you for the blue oceans, and all the wonderful things that live in them. May we always look after the oceans and help to keep them healthy. Amen.

September 15, 2019 ~ Plants

Job 39:1–8, 26–30

Psalm 104:14–23

1 Corinthians 1:10–23

Luke 12:22–31



Something to think about, talk about or do

“You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth” (Psalm 104:14).

The readings during the Season of Creation invite us into a relationship with the natural elements that surround us. We have an intimate relationship with the plants and animals that feed and nourish us. Our food comes from all parts of creation – plants growing in the ground, fish and seafood living in rivers and oceans. We depend upon Creation to keep us alive. When we grow, harvest, and consume responsibly, we are caring for Creation and preserving the balance of nature for the generations that follow us.

Together this week

****Make a meal with locally raised ingredients and invite your friends to share it with you**

Prayer

Thank you God, for all living things. Help us to honor and respect them. Help us to see you in their colors and sounds. Amen.

September 22, 2019 ~ Storms

Job 28:20–27

Psalm 29

1 Corinthians 1:21–31

Luke 8:22–25



Something to think about, talk about or do

“God sits enthroned over the flood; God sits enthroned as ruler forever. May God give strength to God’s people! May God bless God’s people with peace!” (Psalm 29:10–11)

Creator is not the only role that God plays in our lives. As these verses explain, God is a God of storm, and God strengthens and calms us.

While we might struggle with the

different roles God plays in our lives, we can be assured that God is present in times of storm. We can tell God we are afraid, and God hears.

Together this week

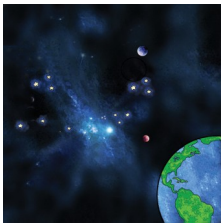
- **Listen to or read the news, paying special attention to stories that talk about how storms have affected a community. Spend time praying for the survivors of the storm, that they feel God’s strength and peace surrounding them.**
- **Assemble hygiene kits for the survivors of storms and natural disasters.**

Prayer

Loving God, we know you are with us, in sunny times and stormy times. Help us to feel your love around us always. Amen.

September 29, 2019 ~ Cosmos

- Proverbs 8:22–31**
- Psalm 148**
- Colossians 1:15–20**
- John 6:41–51**



Something to think about, talk about or do

We take for granted God’s divine wisdom in creation – the elements of Creation that work perfectly together to sustain all life.

In Proverbs, Wisdom speaks about the creation of the cosmos at the beginning of time, long ago, “before the beginning of the earth” (Proverbs 8:23).

Wisdom was there alongside God as God crafted the world and all Creation. Today, we are working alongside God – conserving and protecting Creation – sharing in God’s delight. We cannot forget our role in maintaining the health of all Creation – it will undoubtedly affect our own.

Together this week

- **This week – whenever you can – go outside for lunch, take a walk in nature in the morning or evening, or read outdoors.**

Prayer

Thank you, God, for all we can see and imagine in space. Thank you for the beautiful and mysterious Cosmos. Help us to feel your love around us always. Amen.



Common Cents Fund

Helping Children at Risk In our Community

Thank you for your generosity over the past few months. Your pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollars which you contributed multiply quickly. The mission of the Common Cents fund is to help children at risk in our community.

Thank you for your pennies and other loose change, and yes those dollar bills, too! Keep them coming and together we can help a lot of children. The next big projects are the “Healthy Start Project” for Children’s Sabbath in October, a food item for Thanksgiving baskets, the “Tree of Angels” during Advent, the School Break Food Boxes and the Souper Bowl Sunday in early February.

You can help make a difference in the lives of local children with your continued support of the Common Cents Fund.

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• **Success is a journey** •




• **Not a destination.** •

• • • • •



September 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Worship at 10:30 am Amelia G.</p> 	<p>2 KCC Office Closed for Labor Day</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Derald O.</p> 	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Lisa G. and Jim K.- Renewal of Vows at 1 pm</p>
<p>8 Kick-off Sunday Pancake Breakfast at 9:10 am Worship at 10:30 am</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 40 Days of Prayer for Children begins</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 Worship at 10:30 am Climate Conversations at 12:05 pm April M.</p> 	<p>16 CE Meeting 7pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Worship at 10:30 am Climate Conversations at 12:05 pm</p>	<p>23 KCC Council Mtg. 7pm</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Worship at 10:30 am Climate Conversations at 12:05 pm</p>	<p>30 Covenant Group at 12:30 pm</p>					



Kirkland Congregational Church Prayer List



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

Sunni S
Jesse A
Dorris K
Barbara A
Gordon G

Nancy L
Jerry R
Ruth W
Judy H
Barbara D
Carole F
Victims of abuse

Lisa G
Sarah J
Barbara L
Philip V
Jim P
Janet G

Victims of crimes and violence

Victims of natural disasters

Residents of Camp Unity

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.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

