FROM PASTOR LEAH’S DESK

The start of the program year always gets me excited. Maybe it’s the crispness of fall setting in. Maybe it’s the way most people’s energy feels renewed after enjoying the beautiful (though smoky) summer. Maybe it’s the fresh crop of beginnings laid out before us, waiting to be harvested. Whatever it is, each September, the promises of God feel a bit fuller, and the possibilities for a church attuned to those promises...boundless.

A few outreach efforts have me more excited than usual as we step into September this year.

First, as of August 19, Karyn is now the Acting Associate Pastor of Fauntleroy Church! We are so very thankful to be able to increase our capacity for ministry by inviting Karyn into this broader, pastoral role where we know her gifts will shine! If you weren’t here August 19, you can listen to her sermon via our church website: www.fauntleroyucc.org.

Second, as you read this, I’ll be returning from a trip with Karyn to the U.S./Mexico border to be part of the U.C.C.’s “Faithful Witness at the Border” trip/program from August 27-30. Karyn spoke to this trip in our last newsletter, so I’ll simply say that I’m sure we’ll have much to share about our experience in upcoming weeks.

Speaking of upcoming weeks, the YMCA has invited us to participate in “Welcoming Week” September 14-23 – an annual event across the U.S.- with the intention of helping refugees and other immigrants to feel that “no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here”. During these ten days, the West Seattle Y will host a multicultural potluck for the community (to which you are invited!) as well as a showing of “Harvest of an Empire” followed by discussion. This documentary shares an important look into the history of U.S. involvement in Central American countries that has contributed to the present state of those countries today (including the number of asylum seekers we now see at our borders). Dates have yet to be announced for these two events, but stay tuned! On the church side of things, you’re invited to create a welcomer sign at the “Get Involved” table for posting in our church/Y lobby. Also, look for daily church Facebook prayers for immigrants (another good reason to “like” our church Facebook page). For those of you not connected online, printouts of these prayers and reflections will be available at the “Get Involved” table at the end of Welcoming Week so you might keep the prayers going!

If the present plight of immigrants is moving you, consider whether you might appreciate joining our brand new Fauntleroy Church immigration task force (to look at how the church might act to address present plights immigrants are facing), the new joint Fauntleroy-Alki-Admiral UCC immigration action group, or attending an upcoming West Seattle Interfaith Network gathering. For information on any of these groups, see Pastors Leah or Karyn.

And to top off our start-of-the-year outreach efforts, we hope you’ll join us for the annual CROPWalk on Sunday, October 7 – a great way not only to provide clean water to communities around the world, but also a way in which we can make “home” for many healthier, more livable and maybe – just maybe – a secure place from which they don’t need to seek to emigrate.

Can you feel the fall winds blow? I certainly can. And something tells me it just may be God’s Spirit swirling.

A fellow leaf of God on the wind, Leah
As an open and affirming congregation, the members and staff of Fauntleroy Church are committed to fostering community among people of all races, cultures and sexual orientation.

HOMELESSNESS T.F.
RECORD GIVING TO EQUIP STUDENTS FOR SCHOOL
This week, supply shelves at Highland Park, Roxhill, and West Seattle elementary schools will be groaning with supplies, thanks to the generosity of this congregation and members of the West Seattle/Fauntleroy YMCA, which joined in our fifth annual drive.

We’ll be delivering more than a dozen bags of supplies to Roxhill and have already passed on $773 from cash donations to the Pencil Me In For Kids project to buy in bulk for the other two schools.

The schools will also be getting 33 backpacks but not until after they participate in the “blessing of the backpacks” during our Sept. 9 worship service.

Among many other items, the drive brought in 92 composition books, 124 glue sticks, 160 pink erasers, and 1,114 pencils. Our donations will be critical by late winter, when supplies purchased out of school budgets begin to run low.

Cash gifts totaled a record $1,373, enabling us to set aside $200 to each school to spend on unique supply needs. West Seattle, for instance, is using part of its allocation to buy folding tables for its chess program.

A big thank you to all who gave so generously! - Judy Pickens for the Homelessness Task Force

CROCK POTS
While planning ahead for fall, please add these dates to your calendar for Crock Pots:
9/15, 10/13, 11/17 and 12/15. Crock Pots is a monthly group for 40 something, give or take a decade or two, who meet in the homes of church members. Child-care is provided on site. Location and meal details are sent out via Evite. Please contact the church office if you’d like to receive these Evites.
SEPT 8TH TEACHERS ORIENTATION

Sunday School volunteers, be sure the Sunday School Teachers Training is on your calendar for September 8th from 10:00-1:00! This is a very important meeting for Sunday School volunteers because it sets the foundation for a safe and spirit-centered program year. Some information is familiar, but it always renews our hearts to gather in teaching teams, to share tips about creating sacred space classrooms of love and respect, to review the curriculum, get an overview of the year, and fill schedules out far enough ahead to get off to a smooth start. Please join us if you plan to teach, assist, or just want to know more about how you can support this important ministry. RSVP Karyn Frazier at karyn@fauntleroyucc.org so she can plan materials, refreshments, and childcare, as needed.

LITTLE PILGRIM SCHOOL

Greetings from Little Pilgrim School,

The first days of school for our little ones are near and we are happy to be going into our 66th year of providing quality, play-based preschool education in the Fauntleroy community! There is so much exciting news regarding the value of play-based programs and outdoor learning in the field of early childhood education. We are very blessed to be involved in this profession!

School has been out for the summer, yet our teachers and staff have been busy planning and getting ready for the new year by meeting together, developing indoor and outdoor curriculum, maintaining equipment and spaces (a big thank you to Billy for the shiny floors!), and attending educational workshops, conferences and seminars. Some summer learning topics include: The science and health benefits of learning in the outdoors, minimize challenging behavior and increase engagement, relationship building with students and families, and getting off to a great start in the new school year.

Our teachers are truly dedicated to the profession of early childhood education and it is an honor to work with such experienced and passionate individuals! One of our teachers, Angela de Ita, will be completing her student teaching this year to earn her elementary teaching certificate. And, as we wish Angela all the best in her studies, this will open up a teaching opportunity for the remainder of the school year. If you know of someone who would be a great fit for our program, have them contact us right away!

We’d also like to remind you of our AmazonSmile fundraising program. Many of you are already enrolled! THANK YOU! We appreciate your participation. Here are the easy steps: 1) Visit Smile.Amazon.com, 2) Set up/sign in with your email and a password, 3) Click “select charity” or “change” to go to the search page, 4) Search for “Fauntleroy Church, UCC Seattle” and select. Once selected, you will receive an email confirmation and you can begin shopping. Amazon will automatically donate 0.5% of your purchase to Little Pilgrim School. It’s a great way to support our school through Fauntleroy Church with your everyday purchases!

School begins the week of Sept. 10. Hope you’re enjoying these last days of summer!

Judy Pickens, Director

2ND TIME SALE ALMOST UPON US

Volunteers are picking assignments, managers are checking supplies, and enthusiasm is building for our 24th annual 2nd Time Sale on Saturday, Sept. 15, and Sunday, Sept. 16.

This largest fund-raiser of the year depends on three things: quality items to sell; helping hands before, during, and after sale weekend; and an extravagant welcome for every customer who comes through our doors.

Every task associated with the sale involves work, but volunteering is great fun and a chance to get better acquainted with fellow church members. Sign up on Sunday mornings at the Get Involved table or call the church office. The first task will be setting up tables in Fellowship Hall after worship on Sept. 2 and the last will be boxing and delivering leftovers to charities on Monday, Sept. 17. If volunteering during the week or the sale won’t work for you, consider making something delicious for the bake sale. Cookies, cupcakes, fruit bread, etc., will be welcome in the church kitchen the Friday before or early on Saturday morning.

Lastly, we will need customers! Pass the word to neighbors, family members, and friends about this much-anticipated community event - Sat., Sept. 15, 9 am - 4 pm, and Sun., Sept. 16, 11:30 am - 2 pm. And when you come yourself, be sure to extend that extravagant Fauntleroy welcome to fellow shoppers.

Lorrie Cook, Director
SOME IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Week of Sept. 10 – Classes begin
- Friday, Sept. 21, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall – LPS Get-Acquainted Party. Build your own sundae, crafts and activities.
- Sunday, Oct. 21, 10 AM – Children’s Sabbath and LPS Recognition Worship Service
- Wed., Nov. 7, 6:30 PM – LPS Parent Night at Preschool. One adult attends with each student to experience a shortened version of our day.
- Tues., Nov. 13, All Day, Garden Room – Vision Screening for 3 and 4 year olds for all classes.
CONGREGATOR DEADLINE: TUESDAYS, 1 PM

TALENT SHOW COMING UP!

Do you have a special talent? Then our upcoming TALENT SHOW is the place for you! Adults, kids, all are welcome. You will need to audition with Bron, so if you’d like to perform on Friday evening, Sept. 28 at 7:30 PM, do make yourself known.

There is an abundance of talent at Fauntleroy Church, so please save the date for our next Sweet, Sweet Music Talent Show. All proceeds will benefit the mission of Fauntleroy Church.

SAVE THE DATE

On Saturday, Sept. 29, 5-8:00 PM, you are invited to a Mexican Independence Day and San Jose Service Project Fundraiser, here at Fauntleroy Church in Fellowship Hall.

The fiesta and fundraiser will include a festive Mexican dinner, beer, wine, entertainment, cultural activities and exciting raffle baskets.

Proceeds will support two service projects in the village of San Jose Conterras, Oaxaco, Mexico. If you have questions, contact Michelle Alten-Keahler, michellealten@yahoo.com.

More details will be coming in September.

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

The All-Church Potluck Picnic is less than 2 weeks away, taking place after worship on Sept. 9th. We hope you’ve got the event on your calendar and that are you are prepared to enjoy a delicious meal in fellowship with the people of Fauntleroy Church. Pulled pork sandwiches, made by Kari Holsberry, and beverages will be provided. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Arrive a few minutes early to take your food to the church kitchen and be sure to take all of your dishes home with you. Cleaning dishes left behind is the most time consuming part of this event!

This potluck picnic can’t happen without volunteers to help! Volunteers are needed to set up tables and tents before worship, to stage food in the fridge, to put food out on the tables just before worship ends, and to clean up afterward. Volunteers will also be helping to remind the congregation to take home their dishes. Please stop by the Get Involved Table to claim your volunteer shift for the day!

Parish Life Ministry

OVER THE FENCE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
Mary Anne DeVry recently shared the following information: *Free Medical/Dental/Vision Care at Seattle/King Co Clinics (Seattle/King County Clinic) Sept. 20-23.* The clinic offers free healthcare at Key Arena at the Seattle Center. *Volunteers are needed to make this Clinic happen,* especially healthcare providers and those who can interpret for limited English speaking people. For more information, about volunteering go to, http://seattlecenter.org/volunteers.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Congratulations to Kylie and Nathan Gomez-Flaherty who were married in our sanctuary on 8/8/18!

A NOTE OF THANKS
Thank you to Monika Lidman and her husband, John, for donating a power washer to the church. It was used to prep the parsonage for painting and will be used for years to come!

A SMALL REQUEST
The Altar Guild asks that you please take used Kleenex with you on Sunday mornings and properly dispose of them. Please do not leave them in the pews. Thank you.