



# The Congregator

Fauntleroy Church United Church of Christ

December 24, 2018

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WORSHIP  
CHURCH SCHOOL  
10:00 AM



December 30, 2018  
First Sunday after Christmas  
Luke 1:41-52  
Karyn Frazier Preaching

January 6, 2019  
The Season of Epiphany



We'll remember the story of how the three wise ones followed the star to the Christ child, plus listen to stories of three people reflecting on how and where a simple word guided them this past year. We'll also receive a "star word" meant to invite us to our own epiphanies in the coming year.  
Communion  
Leah Bilinski Preaching

*Sarah* *Karyn*  
*Jackie Leah*  
*Billy* *Rosina*  
*Kim* *Steve*  
*Pat*  
*Lorie*

# CALENDAR

# FROM OUR MODERATOR

# WITH APPRECIATION

## Sunday – December 30

### First Sunday after Christmas

- 9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
- 10:00 Worship – Karyn Frazier Preaching
- 11:30 Kristen and SOAR Youth doing Project - Kitchen

## Tuesday – January 1, 2019

### Happy New Year!

Office Closed

## Wednesday – January 2

- 9:45 Staff Meeting - Library
- 6:30 Parish Life Ministry – Library

## Thursday – January 3

- 10:00 Knitters/Crafters – Library
- 6:30 Adult Bell Choir
- 7:30 Choir

## Sunday – January 6

### Epiphany

- 9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
- 10:00 Worship – Communion Children’s Chapel
- 11:30 Undecorate the Church
- 11:30 Service & Outreach – F.B.
- 11:30 Trivia Night Plan. – Library
- 4:45 SOAR – tbd
- 5:00 Sojourners – Bjornson home
- 5:00 Assoc. Pastor Search Com. – Fish Bowl

## Monday – January 7

- LPS Classes Resume
- 8:30 Altar Guild

## Tuesday – January 8

- 9:00 Fix-It Group
- 6:30 Seaside Sisters – Room 416
- 7:00 LPS Standing Com–4<sup>th</sup> Flr CR
- 7:00 Personnel Com. – Fish Bowl

## Wednesday – January 9

- 9:45 Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl
- 6:30 Christian Ed Ministry – Library
- 7:00 Finance Ministry – 4<sup>th</sup> Flr CR

## Thursday – January 10

- 10:00 Knitters/Crafters – Library
- 6:30 Ukulele Band
- 7:30 Choir

**As an open and affirming congregation, the members and staff of Fautleroy Church are committed to fostering community among people of all races, cultures and sexual orientation.**

## INITIATIVE ENDORSEMENT



*Church Council*

This fall, a member of our church petitioned the Church Council and asked that the Council formally endorse Initiative 1631 prior to the November election. The Council solicited feedback from the congregation on this request, asking for input not only on whether we as a church should endorse *this* initiative, but also whether members of the congregation felt comfortable with the church speaking as one voice on *any* political initiative. While many church members indicated that they supported this initiative personally, several shared that they were not ready for our church to speak as one voice on this issue. There was a consensus within the Church Council that we as individual members should speak our voice on matters where justice and peace are involved, and the majority of council members also felt it important to discern when God might be calling us to raise our voice as a collective church body. On this particular initiative, however, the Council did not feel like there was time prior to the election to discern collective support of the initiative, particularly when questions about process were also involved.

Accordingly, the Council chose not to act at this time. We will continue to discern how our faith compels us to act on matters of justice and peace, and we, as a Council, welcome input from members of the congregation at any time.

**Zack Hill**

## UPDATE ON PARISH LIFE MINISTRY

I wanted to provide everyone with an update on the Parish Life Ministry. Our Chair has had to step down for personal reasons, but I am happy to report that **Gwen Benedict** has agreed to step in to lead this ministry as Acting Chair for the rest of the church year. The Church Council unanimously approved this move at our December 4th meeting.

**Zack Hill**



## Ministries

## ADVENT FESTIVAL THANKS

Wow, what a festival! The tables were packed with people eating soup, enjoying fellowship with each other and making fabulous crafts.



I'd like to thank the Parish Life Ministry for creating the festive atmosphere and for coming up with the wonderful variety of crafts. Thanks to **Kari and Rees Holsberry** at the snow globe table, **Baiba Morris, Vera Holte, and Celesta Bjornson** with the beaded ornaments, **Christina and Susan Petty** with the Christmas Carol bookmarks, **Tina Wright and Heather Craven** with the burlap NOEL banners, **Laura Grit**, who helped me with paper chain and star garlands, **Carolyn Tucker and Abby Dwyer** with cookie decorating, **Jenny and Gordy Mandt, Kersti Muul, and Tom Benedict** with birdhouse decorating, **Ella Friis-Alfers and Morgan Holsberry** with the cocoa station, **Kathleen Steele and Cathy Friis** for floating to help at each station, and **Gwen Benedict** for her leadership. And, in the kitchen, preparing and serving delicious stone soup, thank you to **Carolyn Tucker, Rita Gutterud, Cathy Phillips, Allison Wetzel, Heather Craven, Deb Decker, Pam Ford, Imani Stone, Dennie Carcelli, Marilynn Bernahl**. Thanks also to **Bill Zoellner, Jim Galbraith, and Lucy Gaskill Gaddis** for helping to clean up. Extra special thanks to **Carolyn Tucker, Cathy Phillips, Pam Ford, and Marilynn Bernahl** for being the first to arrive and last to leave. Wow!

And, to the many others who pitched in to help when they saw a need, helped someone next to them at a craft station, or kept someone company while they ate soup, thanks!

**Sarah**

# SEASONAL MESSAGES

## “STAR WORD” EPIPHANY SERVICE – JANUARY 6

*It is not over, this birthing. There are always newer skies  
into which God can throw stars. -Ann Weems*

**AN ADVENT PRAYER:  
We Pray for Your Peace**  
By Rev. Karla Miller  
Holy One,

In this season of Advent, we wait for you to break into our worlds, unexpectedly.

Help us to stay awake, to be aware, to hope against hope.

We pray for your peace in this world, when you will settle things fairly between nations, and make things right between peoples.

We pray for your peace, when we all will turn their weapons into something useful, but not for war.

We pray for you to show us how to simply be advocates for your peace and hope. Help us to know that what we do makes a difference.

We pray for the peace you bring within families.

We pray for the peace you bring within ourselves.

We pray for your peace to come for those who are ill,  
those who are grieving,  
those who are struggling,  
those who are suffering,  
those who are lonely,  
and those who have been devastated by disaster.

Surprise us with the possibilities of how your vision of peace and hope might take root, and how we might live into this vision of justice and love for all of creation.

Even so Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

### THANKS TO THE CAROLERS

On Dec. 2, about 20 folks went out Christmas caroling in the neighborhood. **John Anderson** said he had not heard carolers for many years and was so thankful that they appeared as a surprise Christmas gift. **Bonnie Beerman** and her sister were very moved upon having them appear at their door. **Vera Holte** tried to give them all a hot beverage. Thanks to all you carolers. It was so appreciated!

On Epiphany, we remember the story of the three wise ones, following the Bethlehem star to the infant, Jesus. They journeyed because their prayers and meditations, their hopes and discernment told them that something divine was taking place and they were meant to be a part of it. They knew they were looking for the child king of the Jews, but they didn't know exactly who he was, or what his birth could or would mean. They had to follow the star to figure it out. They had to be open to the possibilities.

In our January 6 Epiphany worship, we'll seek to follow in the wise ones' path in a manner we've engaged for the last few years. On that day, each of us will be invited to take a random star from a basket. On each star will appear a "star word". A star word is a word meant to guide you in the coming year – like the star of Bethlehem.

Sound a bit woo-woo? I know. That's what I thought the first time I experienced receiving a star word. But like the wise ones, I opened myself to the possibilities. Reluctantly at first, I placed that first star word, "clarity", somewhere I would notice it each day. Every time I saw it, I sent up a quick prayer to God, for increasing clarity in my life, in my job, in my path of discipleship, in problems and in celebrations. Eventually, the word became embedded in me. I thought about it all the time. I journaled about it. I walked a labyrinth holding it on my heart. And I began to feel it leading me on a path of discernment. That was 2012 – the year I felt God beginning to open my heart to the possibility of being called to another setting of ministry in the not-too-distant future. And we all know where that led!

Some star words are inspiring. Some are annoying. But all can have a message for us if we let them in – if we allow them to become a focal point for faithful discernment.

We hope you'll join us for this special worship of reflection on January 6, and I pray it blesses you for the coming year as you open to the manifestation of God that just might be waiting to be revealed with the help of something so simple as a "star word".

With wonder, **Leah**



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### CHURCH PHOTOS



You've probably seen **Ben Ackers** and **Monika Lidman** taking photos during special events and worship services. Have you wondered what they do with the photos after they are taken? The photos are posted online in a password protected photo library. Check out our church photos here: <https://fauntleroyucc.smugmug.com/>. Click the "Need a hint?" link under the "LET ME IN" button to help you figure out the password. Still stumped? Contact the church office for help. Enjoy!

**Sarah**

## CARING MINISTRY

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The Family Care Support Group wants to gather your ideas for possible topics for 2019.



This is a group that was formed by the Caring Ministry to offer support to those folks in our worship community who are grappling with the issues of caring for aging parents, disabled children or, perhaps, even themselves. These issues are often very emotional, time consuming and complicated. This group would like to hear what is important to you. Please send your thoughts and ideas to [b\\_reeves\\_98136@yahoo.com](mailto:b_reeves_98136@yahoo.com).

Thanks!

**Bobbie Reeves**



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 6001

Fauntleroy Church UCC  
 9140 California Avenue SW  
 Seattle WA 98136-2556  
 December 24, 2018

**Sunday Worship & Church School: 10 AM**

**Office Hours: 8:30-3:30 PM Mon.-Thurs. 8:30-2:30 Fri.**

<b>Senior Minister</b>	Rev. Leah Bilinski
<b>Music Director</b>	Bronwyn Edwards
<b>Acting Associate Pastor</b>	Karyn Frazier
<b>Little Pilgrim School Director</b>	Lorrie Cook
<b>Wedding Coordinator</b>	Rosina Geary
<b>Volunteer &amp; Engagement Coor.</b>	Sarah Ackers
<b>Youth Leader</b>	Kristen Almgren
<b>Nursery Supervisor</b>	Carol Smith
<b>Custodian</b>	Bill McElroy
<b>Financial Assistant</b>	Aimee Pinckney
<b>Financial Assistant</b>	Pat Gedney
<b>Office Manager</b>	Jackie Gould

**TIME DATED MATERIAL**

**CONGREGATOR DEADLINE: TUESDAYS, 1 PM**

**OVER THE FENCE**

**PRAYER CHAIN**

**Please pray for...** Kevin Glandon, Ron Maynard, Donna (Finney), Louisa Wagner, Lauren Smith, Mike Goldfine, Ev Eldridge, Kersti Muul, Huey Simmons, Jo Garrity, The Lane Family, Vivian Belcher, Carolyn Tucker's sister, Barbara, Vicki Weeks, Marilyn Moore, Mandy Sommer, Terry Clements, Bev & Paul Fletcher, Becky, Rees Holsberry, Kitty Clark and our divided country.

**NOTES OF THANKS TO...**

**Celesta Bjornson** for pulling together the church Library, making it more comfortable and welcoming. She reframed and rehung all the pictures, creating an eye-pleasing Pastor's Gallery. She also purchased and placed baskets on the library shelves to contain overflowing books. Thank you for sharing your time and talents, Celesta!

**Tad Maruyama** for stepping in at the last minute and helping hand out programs and helping Karyn put up chairs for the Christmas Concert. He really got it all organized quickly!

**Carolyn Tucker** for preparing cookie dough and to **Baiba Morris, Cathy Phillips, Pam Ford** and **Deb Decker** for baking the cookies we all enjoyed decorating at the Advent Festival.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Benjamin Makai Kratz** was born on Nov. 20 to **Adam & Mary Kratz**. Big sister, **Lily**, is 3 years old. This is the sixth grandchild of **David & Lyn Kratz**. David is our former Senior Pastor. Both mother and baby are doing fine and the family is thrilled with this newest addition!

**'TIS THE SEASON TO PUT AWAY!**

On January 6, 2019, following the worship service, the Worship Ministry invites you to assist in the de-greening of the church. It's time to wrap up our lovely decorations until next year. We need folks of all ages and talents to change banners, fold away garlands, pack up ornaments and stow away the trees! Thanks in advance for all your help!  
**Mark Olson**, Chair

**ALTERNATIVE GIFTS KEEP ON GIVING**

Thank you to all who came to the **West Seattle Alternative Giving Fair** on Dec. 2. Clearly, this way of supporting the good work of caring programs is gaining momentum! We had 23 non-profits at this third-annual event, explaining their programs and receiving donations.

The idea behind the fair is to give gifts that last well beyond the holiday season. Each non-profit had a card or small thank-you item for donors to give during gift exchange. Donations during the fair are not yet totaled but we were pleased by the robust number of non-profits that asked to participate.

Please join me in thanking **Karyn Frazier** and **Judy Pickens** for working with me to organize and publicize the event and see to all the logistics. The **Service and Outreach team** provided exceptional hospitality while **Marilyn Whittendale** and **Bron Edwards** added festive music.

**Sheryl Guyon**, Chair, Service & Outreach Ministry

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

During January, **Sarah Ackers**, Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator, will be working on a special project. She will be adding Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) to our administrative toolbox. MSP is a church volunteer scheduling software which will work with Servant Keeper, our church management software.

**Jackie** will be helping with some of Sarah's tasks to allow her the time needed to get this new tool up and running. Please allow extra time if you need assistance from Sarah in January, as she will be delayed in her responses.