Fauntleroy Church United Church of Christ

THE CAPACITY-BUILDING CAMPAIGN UPDATE
FOR WHICH YOU’VE BEEN WAITING

I am continually impressed by our congregation. If you’d asked me a year ago whether I thought we’d be able to achieve our one million dollar campaign goal, I would have told you that I believed it possible and was praying for it – but that I really didn’t know. If you’d asked me a month ago -- as the Finance Ministry did -- I’d have told you what I told them, “I think we’ll get close.”

Right now, with a smile on my face, I’m imagining any of you asking the question again: “So, are we going to reach our goal?” And now, I get to tell you that I KNOW WE WILL! Through your generosity, your faith, your belief in the ministry and future of Fauntleroy Church, we have raised approximately $979,000. As our campaign co-chairs, Laura Grit and Glenn Seaverns, and church moderator, Zack Hill, elatedly said at a meeting on January 10, “we’re knocking on the door of our goal.”

If you haven’t yet had a chance to submit your pledge or gift, I’m inviting you to the pleasure of taking the baton and being an anchor runner in this team effort of our church. Every gift given with prayerful intention and love – no matter how small or large – has been helpful and will be immensely helpful in this final stretch.

The campaign finish line is within sight! On the other side lies a mortgage-free church with two pastors, a new steeple, a healthy maintenance reserve and most importantly, a healthy, freer place from which to stand and say, “What now would you have us do, God?”

I KNOW I’ll see you on the other side of that finish line, Fauntleroy Church!

Giving thanks for you. Leah

HONORING CHRIST’S EXPANSIVE WELCOME AT COMMUNION

At a recent meeting of our Immigration Task Force, Cathy Philips shared that she’d gone to the White Center Food Bank and asked staff what foods are in highest demand. Staff there shared that they can’t seem to keep the shelves stocked with enough red lentils, bags of beans (not canned beans), canned tuna and canned fruit, and that these items are often sought by clientele who have immigrated from other countries.

Every month at communion, we emphasize the expansive welcome of Christ as well as Jesus’ call to holy community. Beginning in February, the immigration task force, Karyn and I would like to invite you to bring one of the above, highly-requested food bank items as a reminder to us all of how Christ’s communion table must expand beyond church walls.

On Sunday, February 3, you’ll find a basket (or baskets) in the narthex, just outside the sanctuary. You’re invited to leave your food bank items there. During worship, our children will help to bring the items forward during the time for children and place them at our communion table. Please join us in this small way of living Christ’s expansive communion in coming months!

Leah

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

WORSHIP
CHURCH SCHOOL
10:00 AM

January 20, 2019
Karyn Frazier Preaching
Ministry Sunday – Blessing Bags assembled in Fellowship Hall

January 27, 2019
Luke 4:21-30 and Psalm 71
Leah Atkinson Bilinski Preaching

11:30
Taste & See
Library

5-7:30 PM
Confirmation Classes Begin
Youth Room & Fellowship Hall
Friday – February 1
Current LPS Families may enroll for fall classes

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.

FACEBOOK
Did you know our church can be found on Facebook twice?
The first, called Fauntleroy Church UCC, is a closed group meant for people in the congregation. I often post volunteer needs, schedule changes, reminders about events, and photos there for the congregation to see. This internal group is managed by a couple of administrators who grant permission to those who want to be a part of the group.
The second, called Fauntleroy Church, is an outward facing page. It can be viewed by anyone. A small group of volunteers have access to post content on this page. This external page gives visitors a glimpse of what's going on in the life of our church, including service projects, worship services, and events.

If you are a Facebook user, please stop by both the internal group and the external page and "like" them. It's an easy way to keep "in the know" at Fauntleroy Church. Sarah Ackers, Volunteer & Engagement Coordinator

UCC BUSINESS
OFFICIAL CALL TO SYNOD
You are all invited to the 32nd General Synod of the United Church of Christ is June 21-25 in Milwaukee, WI. The keynote is Dr. Matthew Desmond, Professor of Sociology at Princeton University and Pulitzer Prize winner for the book, "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City". From UCC General Minister and President, John C Dorhauer: I invite you to bring a spirit of love, of compassion, of openness and of hope with you. I look forward to seeing you in Milwaukee! Until then, let the light of the living Christ shine in through you, and be known to all whom you meet along the way."

If you’re interested in attending, please talk to Karyn or Leah.

AMAZING GENEROSITY
Thanks to your amazing generosity, we were able to give a record $1,875 in Safeway Gift Cards for staff at Highland Park, Roxhill and West Seattle Elementarys to give to needy families just before the long winter break!

Between donations during the Alternative Giving Fair and tags on giving trees in the narthex and YMCA, we have enough for each school to distribute 25 cards valued at $25 each. In addition, three cards valued at odd amounts ($57) went into our Deacons Fund for assistance through the church office. That brought total donations to $1,932, compared to $1,200 in Advent 2017.

I was honored to deliver fat envelopes of cards to staff at each school on your behalf and take away many heartfelt thank-you’s. As one donor said, “I want my money to help people on the ground and you can’t get closer to the ground than this”.

Judy Pickens

A heart felt thank you to all who donated to the cold weather clothing drive for the Refugee Women’s Alliance (ReWa) preschool. I was blown away by the generosity of this community. The final numbers for the collection were 85 warm winter coats for children, 68 pairs of new socks, 63 pairs of children’s gloves/mittens and 14 hats. The folks at the Alliance were ecstatic when we walked in with bag after bag of donations. One volunteer asked me how we ever managed to pull this off. I told her it was evident that these coats came from a community of people who truly cared about the population she was serving. As my 6 year old son said when we were leaving, “I think we filled a lot of buckets today!”

Warmly,
Anna Lynch, LPS Teacher
**PRAYING FOR OTHERS**

**PRAYER CHAIN**

Currently, we have six folks on our Prayer Chain. They could use some more! It's gotten much easier to share information as we now send messages online rather than via telephone.

So, participating means receiving one email and praying for the folks on a list, which is ever-changing and updated about once a month. Most prayer requests come from the office to the Prayer Chain folks, but some requests might come from other sources. Prayers may be offered for well-being, healing, encouragement, strengthening, comfort or renewal of body, mind and soul, or you may wish to pray for God's holy presence in a particular crisis or situation. There is no right or wrong way to pray. We trust that God embraces all kinds of prayers as authentic expression of your faith. Confidentiality is respected among members of the prayer chain.

If you are interested in becoming part of this important group, or want to learn more, please contact the church office. It's a wonderful way to support your church community. Jackie Ackers, Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator.

**FUN & FELLOWSHIP**

**TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE AT TRIVIA NIGHT!**

Register now for a fun night of trivia in Fellowship Hall! Teams of 8 will compete for a cash prize in our first-ever trivia contest at 5 PM on Sat., February 23. Organized by the Crock Pots potluck group with a professional trivia host, this general-knowledge event promises to be a night of fun and friendly competition.

The cost is $15/person, half of which will go toward the cash prize with the remainder dedicated to our church's mission. Bring cash or your checkbook – there are lots of other fun activities planned with additional opportunities to win!

Please bring a potluck dish to share. The church will provide non-alcoholic beverages and you may BYOB (beer or wine) to share with your team. Team captains are encouraged to come up with creative names for their team, and encourage team spirit with costumes. This event is for high school age and above; childcare will be provided for younger children.

Register in person at the Get-Involved Table after worship or by sending a check to the church office. It's a wonderful way to support church's mission. Bring cash or your checkbook – there are lots of other fun activities planned with additional opportunities to win!

Sarah

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**2019 CONFIRMATION**

This is the year for Confirmation for 7-9th graders. Are you ready for a faith journey? **Confirmation starts on Sunday, Jan. 27, 5-7:30.** On that first night, we'll talk about what Confirmation is and isn't so youth should bring their questions.

**Until then, know that Confirmation is a faith journey** where youth begin to put words around what they believe about God, Christ, Spirit, Church, justice, the UCC…. What does it all mean? And what does it look like lived out? It is not the end of growing in our faith or “Bible 101”. It is a point in time to pause for self-reflection, connection with peers, and affirmation of our beliefs. Faith journeys are life-long, and beliefs change as we mature, face difficulties, celebrate milestones, and engage in mission and worship with others. Confirmation is one important step on that journey we all share.

**Confirmation is also about relationships and happens in community.** We will covenant as a congregation to offer spiritual support for each child along the way and beyond. Another meaningful piece of Confirmation is having a mentor. A mentor is not someone who knows all the answers. A mentor is one who is willing to share her/his own growing faith with another person. Youth and mentors will work on projects and have informal discussions about all that is happening along the way.

**Confirmation meets about 10-11 Sunday nights from Jan 27-June 9, from 5-7:30, and includes dinner together.** We don't meet on SOAR nights so youth can keep up with their whole youth group. The group will be led by Pastor Leah and Karyn, who like games, group building and really good faith conversation. In our experience, youth who do confirmation together sometimes come away with more questions than answers, but wonder is the sign of a vibrant faith life. In our experience, youth also come away feeling better supported in their always-unfolding faith, and they respect and trust deeper friendships they’ve made that are sometimes hard to find in other places.

So…. 7-9th graders, are you ready for a faith journey? RSVP to Karyn if you'll be joining us so we can plan. And if you're on the fence, do this: come to the meeting on Jan 27 and find out what the journey ahead will look like. Ask questions about who’s participating, topics, mentors, faith statements, a possible retreat…. Learn more and then decide. Karyn

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**INTERESTED IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP?**

The Nominating Committee is responsible for planning for long-term leadership needs and recruiting for open ministry and Council positions. The committee works with each ministry to assess the demographic characteristics and skills needed to allow for a balanced membership and future leadership. The committee will begin to meet in February to start planning for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

If you are interested in serving on the Church Council or one of the six ministries, please contact Sarah Ackers, Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator.
THE CONGREGATOR

Sunday Worship & Church School: 10 AM
Office Hours: 8:30-3:30 PM Mon.-Thurs. 8:30-2:30 Fri.

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

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, Kerst Muul, Huey Simmons, Jo Garrity, The Lane Family, Vivian Belcher, Carolyn Tucker’s sister, Barbara, Marilyn Moore, Mandy Sommer, Bev & Paul Fletcher, Becky, Rees Holsberry, Kitty Clark and Ben Kratz.

THRIFTWAY 1% CASH BACK PROGRAM
We recently received a check in the amount of $263.49, representing sale receipts of $26,349. Fauntleroy Church participates in the 1% Cash Back Community Fundraising Program, sponsored by the California Ave and Morgan St Thriftway (only). Simply bring your receipts from that store and put them in the receptacle at the Donation Station in the entryway to the Church/Y offices. Bonnie Beerman collects and adds up the total receipts, then sends them to the Thriftway Store. They, in turn, send us a check for 1% of the total. These funds are given to local; Food Banks.

Thanks so much for saving and sharing your receipts...and thanks to Bonnie Beerman for her work on this project!

CONGRATULATIONS!
Alec Scully, youngest son of Andy & Nora Scully, and grandson of Marcia Wallace, graduated from the Washington State University Edward R. Murrow College of Communication with a double degree on Dec. 8, 2018. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in both Broadcast Journalism and Public Relations. His very proud extended family traveled to Pullman for the event and celebration!

TASTE & SEE INVITATION
Are you considering joining Fauntleroy Church as a member or would just like to learn more about the congregation while making some connections with other members, visitors and friends of the church? Come “taste and see” what we’re all about!

A progressive lunch is provided in the church during the event. The next “Taste & See” will take place following worship on January 27, with new members being received during worship on February 10. Contact Jackie in the church office by January 21 if you would like to participate. Childcare provided upon request.

Sarah Finney, for the Committee

ADVENT WRAP-UP
"The Advent Season is always a special time in the life of Fauntleroy church. The season is visually highlighted by the "Hanging of the Greens" with beautiful Christmas decorations throughout the church. This was again a labor of love by the congregation who joyfully joined in to raise all the decorations following the Nov. 25 worship service. This included children having fun while helping their parents trim the Christmas trees and roll out the garlands. And, then, as the Epiphany Season came with a new year this past Sunday, Jan.6, many in the congregation stayed after worship to take the decorations down and packed them away for next time.

A great big thank you to all the hands that joined in. Happy New Year!"
Mark Olson, Chair, Worship Min.

FAUNTLEROY WOMEN’S RETREAT: SAT., MARCH 9
Dear women of Fauntleroy,
Please save Saturday, March 9 for the 2019 one-day Women’s Retreat. Our theme will be Spirituality in Our Daily Lives. Join us to explore practices and activities that help nurture and deepen our spirituality. Lyn Kratz will facilitate our gathering at Normandy Park UCC. More details to come!

Sarah Finney, for the Committee