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
Associate Pastor
Rev. Karyn Frazier
Music Director
Browyn Edwards
Little Pilgrim School Director
Lorrie Cook
Wedding Coordinator
Sara Satter
Volunteer & Engagement Coor.
Youth Leader
Kristen Almgren
Youth Nurse Supervisor
Carol Smith
Custodian
Bill McGrody
Financial Assistant
Almea Pinkney
Financial Assistant
Pat Gedney
Office Manager
Jackie Gould
CONGREGATIONAL DEADLINE: TUESDAYS, 1 PM

THE CREAM OF THE CROP!
A letter was recently received from Church World Service congratulating Fauntleroy Church for ranking in the top 100 national fundraiser teams for the 2018 CROP Hunger Walk. We raised $12,490 to end hunger and poverty around the world. They also sent us a Certificate of Appreciation (located on the kiosk in the lobby) recognizing us as one of the CROP’s Best! Well done, everyone!

THE CREAM OF THE CROP!

Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwestern Conference of the UCC
Saturday, April 27, First Congregational Church, Bellevue
The annual one-day meeting begins with a continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. followed by gathering and opening at 9:00 a.m. The day’s schedule includes worship, business, presentations, songs and more.

To register and to find out more details, go to pncucc.org, email meetings@pncucc.org, or visit www.fauntleroyucc.org.

There will be time for contemplation, celebration, testimony, and witness, supported by powerful preaching and engaging music from across our conference. We will come together.

Join the movement of Jesus-followers seeking deeper, richer connection to God, and help us hallow the ground in preparation for our Annual Meeting the following day.

S P R I N G C L E A N W I T H O U R 2 N D T I M E S A L E I N M D E N
Can our 2nd Time Sale possibly be 25 years old in September? It will be, only because we get LOTS of quality items to sell. If your spring to do list includes sorting your closets, garage, or basement, please set aside kitchenware, furniture, tools, art, books, linens, jewelry, toys, craft supplies - pretty much anything with at least two years of life left in it. Visit www.fauntleroyucc.org/events or call the church office for a list of what we cannot accept. We gladly accept donations from anyone and provide a tax receipt.

If you cannot store your items until right after Labor Day, call the church office to arrange to add them to our storage space.

Thanks for supporting our ministries by helping make this sale our largest fund-raiser of the year!

FAUNTLEROY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WHY HOLY FRIDAY/GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO ME

April 8, 2019

There’s a tendency in progressive Christian churches to push back against focusing too much on the death of Jesus, and for the most part, I appreciate that push-back. Like many of you, I too reject the myth of redemptive violence — the notion that Jesus had to be killed in order to appease God and convince God to forgive us our sins. The God I know is full of grace and vision for a better world, and I don’t think I could worship a God that required the death of God’s son. Substitutionary atonement theories have never made sense to me, and as I’ve come to better understand ancient Jewish understandings of sacrifice that have nothing to do with one being taking the place of another, understanding Jesus’ death as a “ransom” of any kind has made even less sense to me.

But here’s what I do believe about Jesus’ death. I believe that God’s love and Jesus’ holy dedication to the vision of God showed forth in that crucifixion moment in the most powerful way it could. I believe Jesus was willing to take his mission to the point of death because he wanted to show his followers that nothing holds power over the will and way of God for the world unless we let it. I believe he died for love of us, thinking about people of the past, present and future, and wanting something better than that which he saw oppressing so many. And when I sit in Holy Friday/Good Friday worship, thinking about someone doing that for people he knew and didn’t know (including me), I feel God’s love more strongly than I do at any other moment in the church year.

Holy Friday worship moves me. It moves me to think about the depth of God’s love for me. It moves me to ask myself the question of how far I would go to show forth the love of God in the world. Remembering Jesus’ greatest moment of pain, desertion and suffering in that place of discomfort for one hour isn’t meant to be a self-flagellating guilt trip; it’s an annual memorial service that I attend each year because through Jesus’ love — including the love I see on the cross — I have come to know the face of God more deeply. And, sitting in a sanctuary of decreasing light, I feel that love stepping into the shadowy places of my life and our world to take a stand against all the powers of evil that still run rampant in both societal and personal ways.

I understand the human desire to go straight from the waving of palms to the celebration of Easter. Sometimes, we’re just dealing with too much shadow in our own lives to want to attend worship that draws us into raw places of sadness and love. But if you feel yourself in a place to safely do so, I hope you’ll consider joining us for our Holy Friday worship.

Also, please note: Admiral U.C.C. will be joining us for our 6:00 Tenebrae service of decreasing light. A 20 hour vigil will begin after the service, so if you’d also like to sign up for a contemplative hour in the sanctuary, see the sign-up in the narthex or give Jackie a call in the office.

Blessings, peace and wholeness to you,

Leah

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
WORSHIP AND CHURCH SCHOOL
10:00 AM
Holy Week
APRIL 14, 2019 Palm Sunday
"Listening to the Stones"
Leah Atkinson Bilimoria Preaching
APRIL 19, 2019 Holy Friday
8:00 PM Worship Service - Sanctuary
9:00 PM Vigil Begins in Sanctuary
APRIL 20, 2019 4:45 PM Vigil Ends
APRIL 21, 2019

Leah Atkinson Bilimoria Preaching
6 AM Sunrise Service on Ali
9 & 11 Identical Worship Services - Sanctuary
Concludes with The Hallelujah Chorus
9:30-11 Breakfast in Fell Hall
EASTER MEMORIALS AND/OR REMEMBRANCES
On Easter Sunday, we’ll have two crosses, one outside and one at the front of the sanctuary. The cross outside (as well as tables in Fellowship Hall) will be decorated with flowers purchased in honor/remembrance of someone. If you’d like to participate in making this cross and our tables glorious with the beautiful symbol of new life we find in spring flower, please complete this form and bring it to the church office with a check designating “Easter Flowers” on the memo line or place it in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. This donation will also help pay for the Daily Devotional Booklets mentioned in the previous article. The names of those being honored on Easter Sunday will be printed in the church bulletin Easter morning. Your Name In Honor/Memory of:

Check Amount:

STEWARDSHIP 2019
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN APRIL 7 – MAY 5

Last week you probably received a big envelope from the church — please take a look. Inside is information about how you can pledge your time, talent and treasure to our church. In truth, it’s an invitation to commit anew to each other in our congregation.

The Stewardship Campaign is an annual opportunity to discern God’s Dream for you, for us, for God’s wider world, and to act on expectations of your time, talent and treasure to bring this dream about. Our common life together as a faith community and the fruits of the church ministries that we all make possible through this covenant we share as God’s people. Yes, we are in this together and your pledge is so important.

Members of the Stewardship Committee are available to answer your questions any time and we will be visiting many church groups in the coming weeks to do so. On Sundays you will hear why others choose to pledge, and you can see testimonial videos in coffee hour and online. After worship on Sunday, April 28 church treasurer, Jeff VanGilder will answer your questions about how pledges impact the operating budget. In all these ways, we hope to give you the information you need to feel confident in making your annual pledge.

Finally, on Sunday May 5 we will celebrate the offering of our pledges of time, talent and treasure during Pledge Sunday. We hope you will “Dream God’s Dream” with us during Fauntleroy Church’s annual campaign.

Your Stewardship Committee
- Ben Ackers, Carl Craven, Karyn Frazier, Maria Groen, Cindy Lavole, Glenn Seaverson

FAUNTLEROY CHURCH IS SEEKING A WEDDING COORDINATOR
As a big thanks to Rosina Geary, who has served as our Wedding Coordinator for the last three and three quarters years! With much thanks for her time here, Rosina has decided to step down as coordinator (though we may see her from time-to-time as a sub). If you or someone you know is interested in the Wedding Coordinator role, please contact the church office for a position description. The role is paid for seven administrative hours per week, plus a stipend for each wedding (including rehearsals). Duties include answering inquiries, giving tours, coordinating schedules, day-of preparation, leading rehearsals, working with the Reception Coordinator, and overall, embracing the Wedding Ministry as a ministry of hospitality and outreach to the community.

STAFF NEWS
FAUNTLEROY CHURCH CAMP WEEKEND, a.k.a. "FAMILY CAMP!"
Saturday-Sunday, May 18-19th. Join members of your Fauntleroy church family at YMCA Camp Colman for 24 hours of fun, fellowship, and fresh air. About 90 minutes from West Seattle, and founded by prior church members, Camp Colman is nestled in the trees between a lagoon and Puget Sound. Come for outdoor games, group-building activities, campfire, walks, Gaga ball, and much more.

Details will be in the next edition of the Congregator. Registration open April 19-May 4th. Questions? Contact Karyn, Janey McBride, or me. - Julie Huff

CAMPING NEWS
FAUNTLEROY CHURCH CAMP WEEKEND, a.k.a. "FAMILY CAMP!"
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RECYCLE ROUND-UP APRIL 28, 2019
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Church Parking Lot

Sunday, April 28, will be a busy day in our main parking lot as we host our spring Recycle Roundup with the crew from 1 Green Planet. The list of what 1 Green Planet can accept for responsible recycling and the short list of what it cannot be posted on www.fauntleroy.org/roundup. Also look for the list on posters around the building. A different time this is the crew will not be accepting books. Please reserve any books you think still have value for our 2nd Time Sale in September.

In 2010, our former Green Committee initiated fall and spring roundups with 1 Green Planet because of its commitment to zero waste, zero landfill recycling. Located in Renton, the company processes all recyclables in the Pacific Northwest; it never sends hazardous materials to developing countries or to prisons for disassembly.

Bonnie Beerman is our new roundup coordinator and she’s already recruited several volunteers to direct traffic and accept donations. If you can help for an hour or two, check the schedule at the Get Involved Table in the narthex or call the church office. You’ll have a great time interacting with the hundreds of people from throughout West Seattle who frequent this Earth-friendly event.

JuliePickens

PNC-UCF CONFERENCE WOMEN’S WEEKEND
Pilgrim Firs, May 10-12, 2019
A joy-filled weekend bringing women’s weekend of music, creativity, Sabbath and spiritual exploration. This weekend is designed to encourage women to take a break from their normal routine and perhaps try something new. During full group gatherings, small group discussions, and mini-workshops, you will have an opportunity to embrace creativity and playfulness. Cost is $150.

Opportunities include movement, art, spiritual exploration, time to nap, hike, read, visit, and enjoy the quiet beauty of the historical location of Pilgrim Firs.

Yes, this is Mother’s Day weekend and a great opportunity to give yourself the gift of time and renewal. Our program will be completed by 10 AM on Sunday so you can still be present for family celebration. We would love you to join us! This retreat is designed for all who identify as women. Teens 16 and older are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Retreat leadership: Emily Tanis-Lukkel, Kaila Russell, Brigitta Remole, Tara Barber, Rosemary Hashimoto, Jamie Shilling.