A NEW OPPORTUNITY

Longtime members likely remember a heritage the church began shortly after the Second World War. The congregation aided at least eight refugee families following the war and another 20 after the Vietnam conflict.

“It was a life-changing experience, really – an opportunity to help these people who were coming to a strange land, who hardly spoke the language,” said May Commerree in Judy Pickens’ 2007 church history, Guided by the Light.

Now, we have a new opportunity.

The Immigration Task Force is proposing that the church make available the downstairs of the church parsonage to a family that is seeking political and legal asylum in the U.S. Pastor Leah and her family, who reside upstairs, initially proposed the arrangement and wholeheartedly support it.

But, to be clear, the congregation will be hosting these families as our guests and the responsibility would be entirely ours.

The Church Council of Greater Seattle (CCGS) would refer an appropriate family that had come to the U.S. and legally applied for asylum. While awaiting a decision on their application they are initially prohibited from working. For many families this creates a tremendous hardship and that’s why CCGS seeks to find housing for them. The staff at the Church Council reports that a normal stay is only two to four months. After that, the applicant either gets permission to work and finds more permanent housing or loses their application and faces deportation.

One warning – as you likely know from news reports, U.S. immigration policies are in a state of flux and we can’t guarantee that past practices on political asylum will remain the same going forward. There will probably also be a short break after hosting a couple of families to assess our experiences.

The congregation can decide how involved to be with any family that lives in the parsonage. This can range from offering solely housing to providing any number range of services, some of which might be available from other sources.

There are some costs for preparing the parsonage - we are still getting those estimates. The greater expense could be the time and commitment we make, if we choose an active path of nurturing and supporting these asylum families.

We will provide more costs and details in the next Congregator and in various planned meetings to make sure everyone in the church is fully informed. Ideally, we hope the full congregation will formally consider the idea on Sunday, October 6.

Some church members have already suggested that this opportunity is an outgrowth of last year’s capacity campaign. The great success of that endeavor made our church stronger and better prepared to take on some of the most pressing issues in our community. As we know, aiding families fleeing violence has always been important.

Bob Wyss for the Immigration Task Force; Clayton Hamill and Stevi Hamill, chairs.
CALENDAR

Saturday – August 17
All Day Parking Lot Repainted

Sunday – August 18
9:00  Adult Bible Study - Library
10:00  Guest Preacher, Jason Welle, Church World Services

Monday – August 19
8:30  Altar Guild
6:30  WIN Meeting – F. Hall
7:00  Facilities Ministry - Library

Tuesday – August 20
5:15  Homelessness T.F. – Library
7:00  Council - BRR

Wednesday – August 21
9:45  Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl

Thursday – August 22
10:00  Knitters/Crafters – Library
10:00  Sisters – Eaton home
7:00  Church Leadership Orientation – Fellowship Hall

Saturday – August 24
10:00  Homelessness Lunch Prep – Kitchen

Sunday – August 25
9:00  Adult Bible Study – Library
10:00  Worship – Pastor Karyn Frazier Preaching
11:00  All-Church Picnic

Monday – August 26
8:30  Altar Guild
5:30  Sisters Potluck – Gutterud’s

Wednesday – August 28
9:45  Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl
3:00  LPS Teachers/Director Mtg.

Thursday – August 29
10:00  Knitters/Crafters – Library
7:00  Finance Min. – 4th Floor C.R.

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 orientations.

OUR NEW STAFF…
Building Maintenance & Grounds Custodian

Michael Still, a Burien resident, is our new Building Maintenance & Grounds Custodian. He started on July 29. He’ll work Monday-Saturday, with Tuesday off. Michael has a lot of maintenance and custodial experience, including maintaining a 72-unit apartment building and serving as the custodian for two elementary schools in Oklahoma, where he worked with a good number of volunteers at one of those schools. Michael comes from a large, close-knit family that lives in the Seattle area and has helped to care for his parents since his return to the area from Oklahoma.

I think you’ll like Michael. He is very friendly and loves the idea of working for a welcoming, busy church like ours where he’ll feel good about his work.

If you’re in the church building next week, make sure to say “hi” to Michael and help us welcome him to our staff.

Leah Little Pilgrim School Director
Please extend a warm welcome to the new Little Pilgrim School Director, Jenny Romischer. Jenny describes herself as “a passionate professional with diverse experience in Leadership, Early Childhood Education, and Program Management”. Jenny received her BA in Education from Western Washington University and her Master of Science in Education at the University of New England.

Jenny began her teaching career in North Thurston Public Schools, taught kindergarten in Prague, Czech Republic in 2004, and was a teacher and administrator at St. Mark’s Cathedral Preschool. More recently, Jenny was a teacher and Preschool Administrator for Villa Academy in Seattle. Jenny’s ongoing goal has been to provide “high quality and enriching learning opportunities for students while developing effective partnerships with families” which has led her to leadership roles.

Jenny is a West Seattle resident. She is married and has a 3-year-old daughter.

We are excited to have Jenny join us as the head of the Little Pilgrim School staff and look forward to this next chapter. Jenny’s official start date will be August 28th to start off the new school year! Welcome, Jenny!!!

Leslie Minckler, Head Teacher, Little Pilgrim School
CONSIDER DONATING FINE JEWELRY TO THE SALE

Every year, your generosity and that of donors outside the congregation makes our 2nd Time Sale an interesting, enjoyable, and profitable event. Opening each box of books, toys, linens, dishes - you name it - feels like Christmas.

Many of those boxes contain costume jewelry that our customers eagerly take home for a few dollars. But do you know that fine jewelry is a significant money-maker at the sale?

If you have high-end pieces (silver, gold, semi-precious stones) you no longer wear and relatives don't want, consider letting Vera Holte and Baiba Morris find new homes for them. These crackerjack saleswomen get professional estimates, artfully display each piece, and work with customers to make their choices.

They will also work with you to decide what to donate and learn each piece’s story. Just call the church office for a consultation. And, if you have pieces that are broken, consider donating them as well because they, too, have value for elegant art projects or as precious metal. We'll gladly provide a charitable receipt.

HOW TO DONATE TO 2ND TIME SALE

Preparations for our 25th annual 2nd Time Sale are well under way, including accepting any quality items you need out of the way before Labor Day. Call the church office to arrange to get them into storage.

As you ponder what to donate, be sure to check the list of what we cannot take, regardless of condition, at www.fauntleroyucc/2nd-time-sale, or ask in the office. Large furniture now tops that list as it is too big for today's apartments. Items must be complete, in working order and be something you would spend good money to buy.

Volunteers will accept direct donations in Fellowship Hall between Wednesday, Sept. 4, and Tuesday, Sept. 10. Bring your things between 10 AM - 3 PM weekdays or on Sunday morning, Sept. 8. If you need an evening or Saturday time, call the church office to schedule. Do not leave things at the door when no one is there!

This sale's ability to support our many ministries also depends on generous donations of time. Sign up on Sunday morning to help before, during, or after the sale or call the church office to pick what will work for you.

CHURCH/YMCA CONNECTION

FAMILY EXCURSION – GUIDED TRAIL WALK
Friday, Aug. 16, 11:45 AM 1:15 PM
Sign up for a guided walk through the trails behind the Fauntleroy Church. Explore and learn about native plants and animal species while enjoying time outdoors with the family. Meet in the church parking lot.

KIDS CREATE FAIRY GARDENS
Thursday, Aug. 22, 12:30-2:30 PM
Youth participants ages 5-8, will get to let their creativity run wild as they create and design their own magical fairy gardens to take home. Class will be held at the West Seattle YMCA. $20 for Facility Members; $30 Community Members.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY

PARISH LIFE – SEPTEMBER
SAVE THE DATES
On Sunday, Sept. 8, please join the Parish Life Ministry for an all-church picnic/potluck following worship. The main dish and beverages will be provided by the ministry. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. This is a fun way to reconnect with each other as we come back from our summer travels and head into the busy fall.

The Parish Life Ministry invites you to attend a Sound Bath in the sanctuary on Friday, 9/20, from 7-9 PM. Registration opens on 9/1 @ $10/person. The price increases to $15/person on 9/9. Space is limited, so please register early. More details about the Sound Bath experience to come.

Sarah Ackers on behalf of the Parish Life Ministry

2ND TIME SALE
September 14, 10 AM – 4 PM; September 15 11:30 AM – 3 PM

CHRISTIAN ED NEWS
2019-2020 SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS YOU
We’ll be kicking off fall Programs soon and our Sunday School needs you! Whether you have children in Sunday School or not—but especially if you do—let us know what gifts you can bring to our children and youth classes this year. It's fun, faith-stretching work, and it takes all of us. We provide training, resources, and lots of support. We teach in teams, so grab a friend and sign up together! We ask for about 10-12 Sundays from Sept. to June. You set a schedule that works well with your church and family life. Think about it, pray about it, then reach out to Pastor Karyn at karyn@fauntleroyucc.org with any questions. We’d love all the helping hands we can get so the work is joyful and light for everyone.

SEPT 8TH WE BLESS OUR BACKPACKS!
Backpacks and school bags are the first sign of seasons changing! On Sept. 8, we’d like to bless those backpacks and especially the children and youth—and even adults!—who carry them. Just bring your backpack, book bag, briefcase or even your diaper bags to church, and we’ll fill them with prayers of peace and thanks to God for every opportunity for curiosity, fun, and friendship ahead.

Karyn
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  
Acting Associate Pastor: Rev. Karyn Frazier  
Music Director: Bronwyn Edwards  
Little Pilgrim School Director: Lorrie Cook  
Wedding Coordinator: Neenah West  
Volunteer & Engagement Coor.: Sarah Ackers  
Youth Leader: Kristen Almgren  
Nursery Supervisor: Carol Smith  
Custodian: Michael Still  
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...Donna (Finney); Lauren Smith; Louisa Wagner; Marilyn Moore; Karyn’s cousin, Becky; Dylan Bullard; Lori & Averi Bowerman; Melissa Coudle; Mr. & Mrs. Muul; Lauri Whitford; Maggie Dickson’s sister, Frances; Elaine Wilson; Gary Cooper; Jane Leonard’s cousin, Daren; Randy Sleight’s sister, Laurie; Maria Groen’s friend, Beth; Kerst Muul; The Lane Family; Barbara & Rick Shaw; Dean Tucker’s sister, Dona and daughters; Beverly Wilson; Kathie Salonen and Family; Brenda Donner; Carolyn Tucker; Lydia Shepherd; JoAnn Powell; Kara Hill; Mary Sanderson, Kathy Grainger, Carol Smith, Kathy Grainger’s sister-in-law, Melinda and daughter and son-in-law, Alan; and Amy Hallmon’s babysitter, Abby.

Deb Decker was injured at work. She is recovering at Mt. St. Vincent and would welcome cards and visitors. Please call first, 206-937-3700.

Please keep all of these women in your prayers.

CROP HUNGER WALK – OCT. 6  
The Annual CROP Hunger Walk is a major event at Fauntleroy Church and happens again this fall on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 6, along Alki Beach. Enrolling, walking and making financial pledges will start a few weeks ahead of that date. Last year, we had 72 walkers and raised $10,000 for hunger relief at home and abroad.

2020 WOMEN’S RETREAT  
The next Women’s Retreat will take place at Pilgrim Firs, March 27-29. Planning for the retreat will begin in October. If you are interested in planning and shaping the retreat with and for the women of Fauntleroy Church, please contact Sarah Ackers.

AARP FRAUD PREVENTION SEMINAR – FREE!  
Sunday, August 25, 12:30-1:30, Admiral Church Lounge  
AARP Washington Fraud Prevention Specialist, Sandie Pigott, will lead a presentation and discussion on this important and timely topic. Hosted by Admiral Church as a community service, this is not just for seniors. Any of us can fall prey to con artists!

WHITE CENTER FOOD BANK  
In July, the church contributed $500 to the White Center Food Bank to help pay for their new “reach-in” refrigerator. The following note was recently received from Development Director, Carmen Smith: “Thank you for your generous gift for our new refrigerator! It is working great!”

Thanks to you all for supporting and contributing to the mission of our church, via fundraisers, budget, etc., so that we can help our community in this important way!

SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!  
The Seattle Public Library is seeking Homework Help volunteers for K-12 students. The 2019-20 program runs from Sept. 9, 2019 through June 11, 2020. Volunteers tutor students in all academic subjects in small groups or individually once a week while school is in session. To complete the online application, please go to Homework Help volunteer application by August 20. Contact Anne Vedella, volunteer services coordinator, at volunteer@spl.org if you have questions before completing an application.

PEOPLE NEWS  
Kathy Grainger had hip replacement surgery on 7/22 and Carol Smith had knee replacement surgery on 8/2. Both are doing well.

Lydia Shepherd remains at Washington Care Services, 2821 S Walden St, Seattle WA 98144-6830, (206) 577-6200. Cards are welcome.