EIGHTEEN SUMMERS

“You only have 18 summers to make the memories your kids will remember for a lifetime.”

I first read this line sitting in a doctor’s waiting room. It was blazoned in crisp white text against a rural scene of a family on horseback staring at a sunset, an advertisement attempting to convince hardworking Americans to spend their vacation dollars in Idaho (Really, Idaho?)

But we all know from watching Mad Men that advertising and psychology are inextricably entwined, and the idea stuck with me, producing a sweeping sense of anxiety that Type-A personalities know all too well: “18? I’m down to nine summers with my girls. Nine! What did I do during the other nine? My children’s memories are going to be of fighting with each other over which television show to watch.”

So, like any controlling person, I devised the perfect 10-week plan to make the summer of 2019 the Best. Summer. Ever. There were pool parties. There were camps. There were Mariner’s games. There were trips: Long Beach, Lake Cushman, Leavenworth, Forks. There were street fairs and parades and backpacking. I’m pretty sure if I don’t start doing some actual work this month, my boss is going to fire me.

As the summer comes to a close, there’s been no big “a-ha” moment that’s proved my tactics right or wrong. We did make a lot of memories this summer. But I’m tired. And on the horizon is yet another season that needs to be made the most of. (Apple-picking! Pumpkin patches! Buffalo plaid!) A season that with school and sports and work and the two school fundraisers I’m in charge of is even busier than my busiest summer.

Maybe you don’t have kids, or your kids are grown, and you don’t think this Congregator article is relevant to you, but it is. You’re just feeling the societal expectations of this life differently. Maybe you’re obsessing over who’s doing what on social media, or articles titled, “Living Your Best Life at [Insert Your Age Here],” or “60 Wardrobe Essentials to Own Before You Turn 60,” or “Twenty Rooftop Bars Every Seattle Guy MUST Try.” I genuinely believe that in addition to the continued political turmoil that permeates every aspect of our lives, our well-being is under constant attack by FOMO – Fear of Missing Out – and we must be diligent in creating our own counter-narrative: You. Are. Enough…You. Have. Enough…You. Are. Doing. Enough.

“This fall, know that you are doing enough, and it will all be okay in the end.”

It’s not as sexy as the Idaho ad, but it soothes my anxious soul. I hope it does yours as well.

Hilary Reeves, Worship Chair
**CALENDAR**

Saturday – September 14
9-4 2nd Time Sale – F. Hall/ Narthex

Sunday – September 15
9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
10:00 Worship – New Members Received
11:30 2nd Time Sale
6:00 C2C Meeting - Library

Monday – September 16
9:00 Sale clean up
7:00 Facilities Ministry – Library

Tuesday – September 17
5:15 Homelessness T.F. - Library

Wednesday – September 18
9:45 Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl

Thursday – September 19
10:00 Knitters/Crafters – Library
6:30 Bell Choir – Sanctuary
7:30 Choir

Friday – September 20
6:30 LPS Get-Acquainted Party – Fellowship Hall

Saturday – September 21
5:00 Crock Pots – Acker’s home

Sunday – September 22
9-3:00 Recycle Round Up – Parking Lot
9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
10:00 Worship
11:15 Taste & See - Library
5:00 Sojourners – Butterfield/ Stewart home

Monday – September 23
8:30 Altar Guild
6:30 Sisters – Gould home

Tuesday – September 24
9:30 Caring Ministry – Room 405
6:30 Seaside Sisters – Off-site
7:00 Council - BRR

Wednesday – September 25
9:45 Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl

Thursday – September 26
10:00 Knitters/Crafters – Library
10:00 Sisters – Benedict/Wright home
6:30 Ukulele Band – Sanctuary
7:30 Choir

**MUSIC PROGRAM**

**THE CHANCEL CHOIR**

On Sept. 5, the Chancel Choir resumed its Thursday evening rehearsals in the Sanctuary at 7:30 PM. This is a non-audition choir, and all are welcome to sing. Young singers, don't be shy! Come and give us a try. This choir is a spirited and friendly bunch of people who love to make music together. We sing during worship from September through June and practice twice a week -- once on Thursday evening and again on Sunday morning before worship. We try to keep our repertoire diverse. We all love upbeat music but sometimes the mood calls for a reverent and prayerful time of musical introspection. We encourage instrumentalists to join us too.

Please feel free to contact me with questions. -- Bronwyn Edwards 206-255-4590 or sirensongbron@gmail.com.

**UKULELE BAND**

Our first Ukulele Band gathering is on Sept. 5, the Chancel Choir resumed its Thursday evening rehearsals in the Sanctuary at 7:30 PM. This is a non-audition choir, and all are welcome to sing. Young singers, don't be shy! Come and give us a try. This choir is a spirited and friendly bunch of people who love to make music together. We sing during worship from September through June and practice twice a week -- once on Thursday evening and again on Sunday morning before worship. We try to keep our repertoire diverse. We all love upbeat music but sometimes the mood calls for a reverent and prayerful time of musical introspection. We encourage instrumentalists to join us too.

Please feel free to contact me with questions. -- Bronwyn Edwards 206-255-4590 or sirensongbron@gmail.com.

**THE BELL CHOIR**

If you would like to join the Bell Choir for the fall season, we will begin rehearsals on Thursday evening Sept. 19 at 6:30 PM in the Chancel. Other rehearsal dates will be Oct. 3 and 17 (no rehearsal on Halloween, Oct. 31); Nov. 7 and 21; and our last on Dec. 5. This is a total of six rehearsals, and, if possible, we need you to be AVAILABLE on all six dates. This is because you will play a designated bell and as a group, we need all the working parts to be present at rehearsals. If you are interested in joining the group and you haven’t participated before, please let me know so we can be prepared with music on our first rehearsal date. The Bell Choir will play during church worship in November and December.

**SWEET, SWEET MUSIC**

**STEP RIGHT UP!**

Fauntleroy Church is loaded with musical talent!

All you talented people, step right up! Our next Sweet, Sweet Music on Friday October 4 in Fellowship Hall will feature a local talent extravaganza. But we need YOU to make it happen.

Kids, adults, all are welcome to participate. All acts need to be connected to music, given this is a Sweet, Sweet Music show. So, if you're dancing, whistling, singing or playing an instrument, this is the show for you. Kids are especially encouraged -- they always steal the show! Music Director, Bronwyn Edwards, is the person to talk to. She can provide supporting music, accompaniment, or bring other people together to support you. Bron can be reached by phone or text at 206-255-4590 or by email at sirensongbron@gmail.com. All participants need to run their acts by Bron so she can program them into a fast-moving and exciting show!

As always, Sweet, Sweet Music admission includes sweet treats and coffee, tea and juice. If you are able to bring some cookies or other baked goods, please let Bron know.

Admission is $10 for adults, $8 for seniors and kids are free. All are welcome.

Save the date. Friday, Oct. 4 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall.
Happy fall everyone! I hope everyone has had a wonderful start to the school year! I wanted you to know about some upcoming fall youth events you’ll want to get on your calendars.

We will be kicking off our SOAR year by doing another Amazing Grace Race! The first time we did this we had 20 youth and 5 parents scavenge all over West Seattle and it was SO FUN! We will be doing this on **Sunday September 22** - planning to gather at church at 11:30 AM, playing a few ice breakers and then leaving at noon. We will be out and about for a couple hours and wrap up about 3pm. Here is where I need help: This event requires parent volunteers to help drive. This event will be more fun with more people (and more teams) so please look at your calendar ASAP and let me know if you can help drive and if your youth is planning to come. We need at least 6 youth to sign up and commit to coming for this event to happen. If fewer than 6 can make that date we will still have SOAR, but we will do a different activity. **ACTION ITEMS: 1. CAN YOU HELP DRIVE? 2. CAN YOUR YOUTH BE THERE? Deadline to RSVP: September 15.**

As some of you may know that summer 2020 is another National Youth Event year!! NYE is going to be hosted at Purdue University in Indiana in 2020. I am setting a goal for Fauntleroy to send a large contingent to this amazing event! These events are truly a once in a lifetime type of event and I want our youth to have the opportunity to experience it! How often do they get to gather with 3,000 other UCC young people who share their beliefs and faith! I am working on gathering information about cost, dates, fundraising plans and all the need-to-know information. I will be hosting a PARENT’S MEETING for National Youth Event Travel on **Sunday, Oct. 13**. If you/your youth is interested in traveling to NYE in July 2020, please make this parents meeting a priority. **The meeting will be right after church.**

**CROPWalk:** As always Fauntleroy Church is participating in CROPWalk Seattle and if you weren't in worship to hear how amazing Fauntleroy is - here are the facts! Last year Fauntleroy Church raised about $12,000 and was one of the top 10 teams in the country!! How COOL IS THAT! This year Pastor Leah set a goal for our church to raise $15,000! Think of the impact that could make!! I'm setting a goal of $1,500 for the youth group. Fundraising is an amazing experience and while we will be fundraising for NYE participants this year, it is SO important to fundraise for others! So why not kick off the fall by doing just that! I’ve set up a team page for the Fauntleroy Youth - feel free to join the team or donate or BEST CASE BOTH! With how many youth we have in the group, we could meet this goal if every youth raised just $50. We have about a month, so consider donating a couple of coffee each week and we will make it! Here is the link to join our team! [www.crophungerwalk.org/seattlewa/fauntleroyyouthgroup](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/seattlewa/fauntleroyyouthgroup)

**Here is the full Fall Schedule:**
- **September 22:** Amazing Grace Race (RSVP Deadline September 15)
- **October 6:** CROPWalk (see above for more details)
- **October 13:** National Youth Event Parent's Meeting - After Church
- **Saturday, October 26:** Bake Off (Time TBD)
- **October 27:** Bake Sale (Please save this date - I only had a couple youth that were able to help at our table last year and since this is a Youth Group Fundraiser - it helps when the youth are there😊😊)

**KRISTEN’S YOUTH NEWS**

**By now, you may have heard rumbles about the exciting possibility of housing an asylum-seeking family in the parsonage basement.** The Immigration Task Force invites you to join the conversation about this possibility for Fauntleroy to live out its mission to follow Jesus Christ by caring for the other and working toward justice in this way. We invite you to do this after worship each week in September by grabbing an FAQ flyer at the Get Involved Table and chatting with a member of the Immigration Task Force. On **September 29, after worship**, we will be holding a congregational meeting to give more information about this project, as well as giving space for the congregation to ask questions and let their voices be heard as we continue on this journey. Looking forward to seeing you there!
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  
Jenny Romischer

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...Lauren Smith; Louisa Wagner; Marilyn Moore; Karyn’s cousin, Becky; Dylan Bullard; Lori & Averi Bowerman; Melissa Coudle; Mr. & Mrs. Muul; Laurie Whitford; Elaine Wilson; Jane Leonard’s cousin, Daren; Randy Sleight’s sister, Laurie; Kersti Muul; The Lane Family; Rick Shaw; Beverly Wilson; Lydia Shepherd; JoAnn Powell; Kara Hill; Kathy Grainger’s sister-in-law, Melinda and daughter and son-in-law, Alan; Amy Hallmon’s babysitter, Abby; Chrisy, friend of the Bilinski’s; Yvonne Miles; Ruben Figueroa and Larry Knutsen...

CONGRATULATIONS!  
Member, Melinda Ford (parents are Dick & Patty) was married to Diana Quezada by Pastor Leah on July 20. Best wishes to the lovely couple! Your prayers for Diana’s path to citizenship are appreciated!

A NOTE OF GOOD-BYE  
This church family has been so special to us these last 4 years. Thank you for loving and supporting us and our children. We will be moving back to Phoenix in October. I hope this is not our last church attendance. Hopefully, we will be back to visit 😊. Thank you to this entire community.

Gina, Isaac, Oscar & Silas Thomas

SOUND BATH  
Parish Life Ministry is providing another Sound Bath experience for the church. It will be held in the church sanctuary on Sept. 20 at 7 PM. The sound quiets your mind so your body can relax. Irene Ingalls from Seattle Sound Temple will facilitate by using her crystal bowls of different sizes to create a Wave of Sound. Each bowl has its own sound frequencies to encourage a state of wellbeing.

We hope you will come again or be adventuresome and join us. Register Sept. 1-15. $10/person by Sept. 8. $15/person thereafter.

If you have any questions, please contact Gwen Benedict.

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 September 22nd, with new members being received during worship on Oct. 13. Contact Jackie in the church office by Sept. 16 if you would like to participate.

Childcare provided upon request.

Sarah

UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

9/14 2nd Time Sale (9 AM-4 PM)  
9/15 2nd Time Sale (11:30 AM-3 PM)  
9/20 Sound Bath (7 PM)  
9/21 Crock Pots (5 PM)  
9/22 Recycle Round-Up (9AM – 3 PM)  
Taste & See (11:30 AM)  
Sojourners (5 PM)  
9/24 Council (7 PM)  
9/29 Immigration Task Force Discussion on hosting an Immigrant family at parsonage (11:30 AM)