



The Congregator

Fauntleroy Church United Church of Christ

July 11, 2016

PASTOR LEAH'S PONDERINGS...

As I write this on July 5th, our outside banner stating "To our Muslim neighbors, Blessed Ramadan" will be coming down in a few hours. Ramadan has come to a close, and three days of celebration and feasting now begin.

Even as I wish an "Eid Mubarak" ("blessed feasting") to our Muslim sisters and brothers, I know it hasn't been an easy Ramadan for followers of the prophet Muhammed. ISIS promised a bloody Ramadan, and unfortunately, they followed through on that promise. While Shi'ite Muslims have been targeted, many around the world have suffered, including those who've died at the hands of copycats (such as in Orlando), seeking glory by attaching their names to ISIS.

As we mourn the multitude of lives taken in the name of any faith twisted by hate beyond recognition, we must remember our duty to speak a louder voice of witness into the world. That's why today, a new flag will be going up outside of church. It is a large rainbow flag (nodding to our LGBTQ open and affirming stance) with the words "Be the Church" printed across it. Smaller text, readable to those journeying by at a slower pace, explains what it means to be the church: "Protect the environment. Care for the poor. Forgive often. Reject racism. Fight for the powerless. Share earthly and spiritual resources. Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life."

A banner is but a small step in response to our witnessing call, but it opens doors in an important way and provides opportunities for further conversation. In talking to a church visitor, fellow YMCA member or neighbor who knows you attend Fauntleroy, you might find that they ask you about our banner. Sometimes, that conversation can move in delightful directions. Other times, that conversation may be harder. In either instance, you will have the opportunity to witness to your faith in a way that speaks love into the world. I'd encourage you to be ready for that.

Ninety nine percent of the feedback I received around our "Blessed Ramadan" banner was positive. One phone call from someone identifying herself as a "neighbor" was not. She was shocked to hear that a minister would espouse a pluralistic understanding of faith and claim sisterhood between Islam and Christianity. I spoke with her of the need for Christians to speak out boldly and lovingly in support of our Muslim brothers and sisters who have been ostracized by society. She did not agree. Ultimately, it wasn't a pleasant conversation (due to her reactions), but I believe she learned something that day about another Christian voice, speaking a different message into the world than that to which she had ever, perhaps, been exposed. Sometimes, that's all for which we can ask. But we must ask. And to ask, we must speak and witness out loud.

Attending church is about learning, worshiping and remembering together how to practice our faith. But "being the Church" is about following Christ out the church doors, into all the spaces and places of our lives and world, to witness to the love and world for which he worked. Let us remember and ever seek to better "be the Church" in the world. In Peace

Leah

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 AM

**WORSHIP
CHURCH SCHOOL**

July 17, 2016

"Theoxenia"

Genesis 18:1-10a

Psalm 15

Luke 10:38-42

Leah Bilinski Preaching

July 24 2016

"Challenging a

Narcissistic Faith"

Hosea 1:2-10

Luke 11:1-13

Leah Bilinski Preaching

Following Worship

Ice Cream Social

Narthex & Patio



CALENDAR

Saturday – July 16

1-5 Y sponsored parents afternoon out – F. Hall/BRR
5:00 Crock Pots – Decker home

Sunday – July 17

9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
10:00 Worship
11:15 Women's Retreat Mtg.- F.B.

Monday – July 18

9:00 Altar Guild

Tuesday – July 19

6-8:00 Positive Discipline Workshop - Narthex

Wednesday – July 20

9:45 Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl
3:30 Sisters #3 – Code home

Thursday – July 21

11:30 Mid-Day Fellowship – Narthex

Friday – July 22 to Tuesday, July 26

We will host 50 UCC Youth.

Sunday – July 24

9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
10:00 Worship
11:15 Ice Cream Social - Patio

Monday – July 25

9:00 Altar Guild

Tuesday – July 26

? Executive Com. – Fish Bowl
6-8 Positive Discipline Workshop - Narthex

Wednesday – July 27

9:45 Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl
2:00 Memorial Service for Alice Brewer – Sanctuary

Thursday – July 28

10:00 Sisters – Morris home

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 orientations.

1% REBATE PROGRAM

We recently received a check for \$135, which represents 1% of total receipts turned in from shopping at from the West Seattle Thriftway Store

These funds are given to the White Center/West Seattle Food Banks. Thanks so much for participating! And, thanks to **Bonnie Beerman** for collecting, adding and getting the receipts back to Thriftway for us.

You can bring your receipts to the church and place them in the Donation Station in the entryway.

GETTING ACQUAINTED



As often as possible, The Congregator will include a brief profile of one person in the church. This is a great way to get to know each other and to see the many ways we are engaged in the life of this church.

Sarah Ackers

ANNIKA BJORNSON

Hobbies: dance, theater, writing, reading

Career: student at Seattle Preparatory School

1st friend at Fautleroy: Pastor David baptized me!

Favorite thing about Fautleroy Church: I have been going to this church since I was born, and I have loved growing up in the warm and welcoming atmosphere.

Where do you sit in the sanctuary: Third pew on the right
Which church groups/ministries/ activities are or have you been involved in: Christian Education Ministry, youth group, future church Council member.

Something you look forward to in the coming year: I am very excited to serve my first year on the Council! I cannot wait to provide the perspective of a youth member in the church and contribute a lot to the church I was raised in.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUMMER BOOK DISCUSSION AND POTLUCK, AUGUST 30TH: "DEAD MAN WALKING"

Sr. Helen Prejean, author of "Dead Man Walking" was one of the presenters in the *Living the Questions* video series. She

spoke with conviction about her opposition to the Death Penalty, based upon her understanding of following



Jesus: "One day I woke up to Jesus' deeper challenge to love the outcast, the criminal, the underdog, the enemy. On death row, I encountered the enemy, those considered so irredeemable by our society that even our Supreme Court has made it legal to kill them.... I have accompanied six human beings to their deaths. As each has been killed, I have told them to look at me. I want my face to carry the love that tells them that they and every one of us are worth more than our terrible acts." In "Dead Man Walking", Sr. Prejean recounts her experience as a spiritual advisor to Patrick Sonnier, the convicted killer of two teenagers, and coming to know the families of the victims and the men assigned to perform the execution. Whereas the movie depicts a fictional character based on a composite of two men on death row, the book is a factual and detailed account of Sr. Prejean's relationship with Sonnier.

We invite you to read "Dead Man Walking" this summer, both as an example of theology in action and a study of capital punishment. The death penalty issue evokes a morass of conflicting feelings and moral opinions as evidenced by Washington State's schizophrenic history of twice abolishing and reinstating the law since it was enacted in 1849; 110 executions have been performed in our state over the past 167 years. Although capital punishment is currently allowed under Washington law, Governor Inslee has instituted a moratorium on executions during his term of office. There are currently nine men sitting on death row.

We will come together on August 30th to discuss if and how "Dead Man Walking" has influenced our thinking about the Death Penalty within the context of being followers of Christ. Copies of the book are available at Westwood Barnes and Noble and at the Seattle Library. If you would like to participate in the potluck and discussion, please **RSVP to Mary Code, codemary55@gmail.com or 206-932-6301** or by August 23rd. Feel free to invite your teenage children and interested non-church friends.

Adult Christian Education Com.

NEW MEMBERS

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

The following folks became our newest members on Sunday, June 26.

Mark Price & Karen Kitsis

Mark and Karen come to us from Bethany Church in the High Point community. Mark works as an automotive/Marine Service Advisor and Karen is a Sr. Transit Planning Manager. They have two grown sons and one daughter, Kiarra, still living at home. Mark likes to ride motorcycles and snowmobiles and enjoys working on cars. When asked what prompted them to join Fauntleroy Church, they said, "The openness of FCUCC to all people regardless of who they are, and the lovely people we have met there".

Ev Eldridge

Ev recently moved to West Seattle from the Seward Park area and was looking for a community church. She found it here as she finds the people to be gracious, welcome and committed to Christ. To relax, Ev loves to walk, read, sail, travel and spend time with friends.

Please welcome Ev, Mark and Karen the next time you see them. We're so happy they've joined our church community!

COMMUNITY EVENT

ENJOY A SPECIAL CONCERT

July 31, 2016, 6:30-8 PM, Sanctuary



Enjoy a special benefit concert from internationally known Kobe YMCA Handbell

Choir to celebrate and recognize the 50th Anniversary of our Youth Exchange Programs and Partnership between the Kobe YMCA and the Seattle YMCA.

Hundreds of teens from Kobe and Seattle have learned the importance of international friendship, cultural understanding and global citizenship through international visits between our sister YMCAs. Proceeds will provide scholarships for Seattle YMCA youth to join the exchange with Kobe YMCA in Summer 2017.

Under the direction of Nozomu Abe, the Kobe YMCA Handbell Choir

FAUNTLEROY HOSTING OUR CONFERENCE'S NYE YOUTH JULY 23-26



Every four years the United Church of Christ hosts a National Youth Event (NYE) where more than 4,000 UCC youth from across the country and our denomination come together for an amazing experience of worship, music, workshops, inspiration, service, and welcome! This is that year! It's also a special year because NYE will be a joint UCC and DOC (Disciples of Christ) gathering, so it will be an even bigger and more amazing experience. Plus, it's a very special year, because Fauntleroy Church will be hosting the Pacific Northwest Conference's 50 youth and adults before they join the larger gathering at the end of July at Disney World.

Our own Youth Leader, **Kristen Almgren**, is co-leading our Conference's delegation, and our own remarkable youth, **Rees Holsberry and Annika Bjornson**, will be our representatives. Thanks, again, to all of you who helped with past bake sales, bought mouse ears, and applauded at and participated in talent shows to get these two to Orlando. Kristen says that before the kids hop on their plane, they will gather here with the other youth and adults representing Richmond Beach, University, Ferndale, Bellingham, Blaine, Admiral, Normandy Park, Wayside, and Kirkland UCCs. They'll spend time getting to know one another, focus on topics like how media affects them (including talking about the influence of Disney), and they'll engage in local service projects, such as assisting at the White Center Foodbank. Thanks to **Kari Holsberry** for helping with this project and to **Mary Sanderson** and **Josh Sutton** for arranging things like access to YMCA showers for the group! Our NYE youth will also worship at Fauntleroy on July 24 before they fly out, so you might want to wear your mouse ears to church that day!

Then what? What happens at a National Youth Event? Well, youth will be immersed in worship, workshops, service projects and social justice outreach. For example, United Way will coordinate projects for participants ranging from environmental clean-ups to outreach with persons who are displaced or homeless. According to the NYE planning team, the gathering also includes "an energetic platform of keynotes from youth, young adults and adults; faith based and non-faith based; international voices and an eclectic mix of speakers and artists creatively interacting with our attendees on topics such as environmental justice, human rights and social justice, and leadership and faith formation." And finally, there will be over 200 workshops, after-hours activities, a 24-hour youth hall called Theological Interactive and Educational Hall (TIE), special concerts, great food and lots of fun. Go here to get a glimpse of some of the speakers scheduled and exciting events planned: <http://nye.uccpages.org/>

Every four years the United Church of Christ hosts a National Youth Event and more than 4,000 UCC youth from across the country come together for an absolutely amazing experience of worship, music, workshops, inspiration, service, and welcome! This is that year! It's so exciting knowing Fauntleroy will be the first step on this once-in-a-lifetime journey for youth in the Pacific Northwest Conference.

Karyn

has introduced audiences across Japan to handbell music for almost 4 decades. The choir is composed of 15 ringers and 6 octaves of handbells.

The group is coming to Seattle for this special concert after completing their visit to Vancouver B.C. for the International Handbell Symposium. For tickets go to: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/kobe-ymca-hand-bell-choir-concert-tickets-26362770757>.

Thanks! **Josh Sutton**, Regional Executive, WS/Fauntleroy YMCA

SERVICE & OUTREACH

FROM WESTSIDE BABY

Excerpts from a letter received from WestSide Baby.

Thank you for participating in the WestSide Baby Give BIG blowout, with your 5/3/201 gift of \$1,000. This year, with your help, we were able to smash our fundraising target of \$21,000, raising a total of \$37,620.

In 2015, WestSide Baby was able to provide essentials to more than 31,000 babies and children in our community.



Phone: 932-5600/Fax 932-0401
 E-Mail: info@fauntleroyucc.org
 Website: www.fauntleroyucc.org

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Fauntleroy Church UCC
 9140 California Avenue SW
 Seattle WA 98136-2556
 July 11, 2016

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

TIME DATED MATERIAL

Senior Minister	Rev. Leah Bilinski
Music Director	Bronwyn Edwards
Christian Ed Director	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	Erin Vogelpohl
Financial Assistant	Bonnie Beerman
Financial Assistant	Pat Gedney
Office Manager	Jackie Gould

CONGREGATOR DEADLINE: TUESDAYS, 1 PM

OVER THE FENCE

PEOPLE NEWS

Lily Mae Kratz was born to Adam & Mary Kratz on June 3rd. She weighed in at 7 lbs. 6 oz. Proud grandparents are David & Lyn Kratz!

CONGRATULATIONS, SIMON!

From Andrea Menin: My son, Simon Crean, who was an active church member and LPS student, just graduated from the U of Portland. He'll begin work at Ernst & Young in the fall as a CPA in Portland. Yes, we are proud of him! She goes on to say: I still LOVE to read the Congregator and attend when I can. My dad lives at Bridge Park, so I visit when I can.

Nice to hear that Andrea and her family are doing well. She lives in Chelan.

YMCA INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Friday, Aug. 5 – Wed., Aug. 10

The West Seattle & Fauntleroy Y is seeking host families for Japanese youth ages 12 to 17, who are coming here to learn about our culture and to experience how American families live. Host families provide most meals, a place to sleep and transportation to and from the West Seattle Y each day. The Y will provide daytime activities, 9 AM – 5 PM, including

lunch, Monday-Thursday. Host families can provide activities in the evenings and on weekends. If you can help or have questions, contact Jill Mudge at jmudge@seattlemca.org.

HELP WESTSIDE BABY STUFF THE BUS

WestSide Baby is currently recruiting amazing volunteers to help during community events throughout the summer, as well as other opportunities throughout their Stuff the Bus diaper drive. Email shana@westsidebaby.org for more information.

DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR THE WOMEN OF SAN JOSE CONTRERAS, OAXACA

Jolayne Houtz and Hector Martinez are coordinating another mission trip to San Jose this summer and will be taking suitcases filled with needed items for the community. In the past, our church has done a lot for the children so I thought it would be nice this year to focus our contribution on the incredibly gracious, hard working women who have hosted our congregation multiple times. Your donation of the following items would be much appreciated: **reading glasses, linens (sheets, pillow cases, tablecloths, dish/hand towels), sleeved blouses/tops, longish skirts, sensible shoes,**

jackets, shawls, sweaters, underwear, nighties, jewelry, purses, scarves, and feminine items in general. The women do all of their washing by hand, so dry clean only fabrics won't survive. They dress modestly and tend to be roundish and short to average height, (4'8" to 5'5" tall, shoe sizes 5-7ish). We'd like to fill several suitcases with things that are in good condition and will be treasured by those with few treasures.

Please place your donations in the bin by the kiosk in the church lobby by July 31st or contact me and I'll pick them up (codemary55@gmail.com or 206-932-6301.) I'm also looking for some extra-large suitcases, so if any of those are gathering dust in your attic, please let me take them off your hands!
Mary Code

COOK/MORRIS FAMILY HAPPY!

Ginger Cook called to let us know that former daughter-in-law, Eula Cook, just got her Habitat for Humanity housing house in Port Angeles. Eula cares for Brie, who is autistic. Brie is the daughter of Dan and Ginger's granddaughter, Nicole, who is deceased. The community gave Eula a wonderful housewarming, filling the fridge and cupboards and providing comforters for the beds!

Also, Jill Morris, was just named "Worker of the Month" by fellow employees at Bridge Park.