



The Congregator

Fauntleroy Church United Church of Christ

July 24, 2017

FROM PASTOR LEAH'S DESK

Every two years, our denomination – the United Church of Christ – gathers to do the business of being the wider church together. Delegates are sent from each of our conferences across the U.S., plus visitors (like me) who want to witness the U.C.C. at work together.

With Fauntleroy's support, I was able to attend General Synod from June 30-July 4 in Baltimore, and I am grateful for the worship, witness, education, connections and idea-gleaning I experienced. Most importantly, I got to see the U.C.C. "be the Church" in the world today.

How do we "be the Church" at a *meeting*, you might ask? Well, I believe we do it anytime we seek to live into our mission as a gathered church body – whether as a local church (like Fauntleroy), as a denomination (as at Synod), or as an even wider group of people of faith seeking to work together to continue Christ's mission in the world.

Now, exactly how you interpret "Christ's mission" is key here. If you were to belong to a denomination in which that mission was interpreted according to an after-life focused, individualistic sin-salvation model, then you might find a national gathering to be focused on promoting individual moralism with the hope of communal repercussions. But in the U.C.C., we generally interpret the core of Christ's mission to be about unveiling the Kingdom/Realm of God on earth and sin (whether individual or communally systemic) being that which stands in the way of this salvific vision being realized. I'm sure I'm oversimplifying things for some (which is easy to do in a non-hierarchical denomination), but I think you can get a sense for our U.C.C. focus in the denomination's new Three Great Loves Initiative, begun at General Synod, calling us to seek "a just world for all" through "love of neighbor," "love of children," and "love of creation".

Couched in these missional understandings and expressions, one of the major ways we seek to "be the Church" at General Synod is through adoption of "resolutions" proposed by various bodies of the church (often including groups of local churches). You can learn more about these resolutions at www.ucc.org (or we'd be glad to print information for you). Here's a summary of the resolutions and motions adopted and not adopted at General Synod, minus nominee elections:

- Passed RESOLUTION OF WITNESS: A More Just Economy: \$15 Minimum Wage, Living Wages and Job Creation
- Passed RESOLUTION: Toward Disability Justice: A Call to the Church and Churches
- Passed RESOLUTION: On Corporal Punishment of Children in Homes and Institutions
- Passed RESOLUTION OF WITNESS: in Support of Adult Survivors of Child Abuse
- Passed RESOLUTION: On Recognizing and Studying Gun Violence as a Public Health Emergency
- Passed RESOLUTION: Supporting Authorized Ministries of Underrepresented Clergy: A Call for Greater Representation & Economic Justice
- Passed RESOLUTION OF WITNESS: The Earth is the Lord's--Not Ours to Wreck. Imperatives for a New Moral Era
- Passed RESOLUTION: Affirming the Immokalee Workers' Boycott of @Wendys
- Did NOT pass RESOLUTION OF WITNESS: The Disparity of Rights of Adoptees to Access Birth Records for Adults (Needed a 2/3 majority vote) (general concern centered around the rights of birth parents)
- Passed MOTION: Adoption of the Proposed Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws concerning governance of the national setting.

- Passed MOTION (as amended): On Establishing Procedures for Cultural Diversity Training for Authorized Ministers
- Passed RESOLUTION: Bring Down the Wall in the Caribbean: Ending the U.S. Embargo on Cuba
- Did NOT pass MOTION: Resolution of Witness in Support of Legislation Authorizing Aid in Dying (needed a supermajority)

SUNDAY MORNING

WORSHIP/CHURCH
SCHOOL
10:00 AM



July 30, 2017

Genesis 29:15-28

Karyn Frazier preaching

August 6, 2017
Blues Sunday



Communion

Leah Bilinski preaching

CALENDAR

Sunday – July 30

- 9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
- 10:00 Worship – Karyn Frazier preacher
- 11:15 Worship Ministry – Fish Bowl

Monday – July 31

- 8:30 Altar Guild

Tuesday – August 1

- 9:00 Fix-It Group

Wednesday – August 2

- 9:45 Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl

Sunday – August 6

- 9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
- 10:00 Worship – Blues Sunday (See article on Page 3)



Monday – August 7

- 8:30 Altar Guild
- 2:00 Worship Service in memory of Dorothy Talbert – Sanctuary

Wednesday – August 9

- 9:45 Staff Meeting – Fish Bowl

Sunday – August 13

- 9:00 Adult Bible Study – Library
- 10:00 Worship – Leah Bilinski preaching
- 11:15 Liturgist Training - Sanctuary

Monday – August 14

- 8:30 Altar Guild

Thursday – August 17

- TBD Orientation for Ministry Chairs, Liaisons and Staff- FH

Saturday – August 19

- 5:00 Crock Pots – Hill 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.

HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE

MINISTRY EASED SCHOOL YEAR FOR MANY FAMILIES



Our Homelessness Task Force helps low-income, immigrant families at three elementary schools keep the housing they have. Your pledge dollars invested in Metro tickets, rent/utility assistance, store gift cards, and school supplies went a long ways this school year.

Essential to this ministry were the frontline staff members who were there for these families every day: **Derek Dias** at Highland Park, **Liz Cervantes** at Roxhill, and **Safia Nur** at West Seattle.

Your pledge dollars provided \$585 worth of adult and youth bus tickets this term, purchased for pennies on the dollar through Metro's fare-discount program. Families in a bind requested these tickets to keep getting to work and appointments. When two families at West Seattle lost their housing this spring, our bus tickets kept the children in school until the district could work out crisis transportation.

We set up a \$625 line item for each school to tap when families faced eviction or utility shut-off in the wake of illness or job loss. In June, we converted leftover funds to store gift cards to benefit families over the summer. Gift cards donated through the Giving Tree and our budget filled many gaps during the year when aid from other charities (such as Clothes-line) was not enough.

Finally, our annual school-supply drive in August (in cooperation with West Seattle Rotary) brought in many bags of supplies, plus \$1,480 in cash for purchases unique to each school. We'll do it again Aug. 1-20.

If you're intrigued by this ministry, consider joining the task force. Buttonhole Chair, **Bill Zoellner**, at church or come to a future meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:15 pm in the library. **Judy Pickens**

OUTREACH MISSION

WE ARRIVED IN UGANDA!

The following is a Blog from **Alina Guyon**. She is in Uganda meeting the people helping her put together a library in



Uganda. Some of you donated books to that library recently.

After a long journey from Seattle to Uganda we finally made it! The plane ride was 15 hours to Dubai from Seattle, and another 5 hours from Dubai to Entebbe. Then we drove to Hope of Children and Women (where the library is being built). We were picked up by Candice, a HOCW volunteer from Canada, and Adolphe, an English teacher from HOCW.

We were surprised at the drive to HOCW because the traffic here is crazy. Even in the capital city, Kampala, roads go from paved to unpaved to dirt and back again. The roads and soil are bright orange, which makes everything else look very green. The landscape is really lush and beautiful.

Just from the drive, we saw that life here is very different from life in the US. We were surprised to see the amount of litter and the amount of poverty that seems to be everywhere but the people here make up for it. Every person we pass says hello, and genuinely wants to know how our day is. They are all more kind and welcoming than we could ever imagine. The sense of community here is also wonderful. There are always little kids running around and everyone watches out for them even if they don't know the child. Everyone here seems to know all of their neighbors, and the community acts as one big family.

CONGREGATOR MAILING DATES

The Congregator will go back to its regular schedule in August. It will be mailed out on the 2nd and 4th Mondays. Articles are due the Tuesday before.

CARING MINISTRY

ELDER CARE SUPPORT GROUP

The Caring Ministry has recently become aware that many people in our



worship community are dealing with the issues of elder family members who, due to declining health issues, are needing to make changes in their living situations. This is a complex situation that involves a variety of housing options, help with activities of daily living, social needs, health care needs, and the emotional impact and stress it has on everyone involved. There are many community resources available that most folks are not aware of. Sometimes, it is extremely helpful to gather with other people who are experiencing some of the same issues. Tips and resources can be shared and discussed. The emotional support that is shared by those in your faith community is often invaluable.

The Caring Ministry would like to propose a gathering on **Sunday, August 20th at 11:30 AM (after worship)**. Church member, **Steve Garrett**, will lead the gathering and explore the topics that may be of interest to the group. If you are dealing with a parent, a friend, a relative, or if you are seeking information for yourself – please stop by and join us. If you are someone who has already experienced this – please consider joining in. Your advice, support, and wisdom are welcome! A light lunch will be provided, so please contact **Sarah Ackers at the Church (206-932-5600 or sarah@fauntleroyucc.org)**, so we will have a head count.

Bobbie Reeves, Caring Ministry

SINGIN' THE BLUES ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2017

Join us for a special kind of worship on Sunday, August 6. This will be our fifth annual Blues Sunday, in which we lead worship with all kinds of fascinating music derived from the style of the blues. Did you know that many of the hymns in our hymnal have blues roots? Here's the dictionary definition of the Blues:



"Melancholic music of black American folk origin, typically in a twelve-bar sequence. It developed in the rural southern US toward the end of the 19th century, finding a wider audience in the 1940s as blacks migrated to the cities. This urban blues gave rise to rhythm and blues and rock and roll." (Wikipedia)

The informal definition is "feelings of melancholy, sadness, or depression" as in "She's got the blues."

Fortunately not all blues music is melancholy, sad and depressing. There is plenty of blues musical repertoire that's upbeat and energizing, so we don't plan to leave you feeling down. But expect all kinds of cool songs with stories to share, and guitars, harmonicas and percussion to spare. With spirited individual singers, our Chancel Choir, our Ukulele Band led by **Katie Ackers**, and many instrumentalists, we will worship with a particular style of song and story.

All are welcome, we look forward to seeing you on Sunday, August 6 at 10 AM. **Bron**

NO AUGUST CALENDAR WILL BE SENT

No August calendar will be arriving in your mailbox this month. There are no ministry meetings and very few other gatherings. Here are the dates to note:

- 8/6 Blues Sunday, 10 AM
- 8/7 Dorothy Talbert Memorial, 2 PM
- 8/13 Liturgist Training, 11 AM, Sanctuary
- 8/17 Church Leaders Orientation, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall
- 8/19 Crock Pots, 5 PM, Hill home
- 8/20 Eldercare Support Group, 11:15 AM, F. Hall (See article on first column.)
- 8/22 Council, 7 PM, BRR
- 8/27 New Social Group, 5 PM, Bilinski home



Four Fauntleroy youth, **Ci Hossner, Rees Holsberry and Ian and Matthew Benedict**, and our youth director, **Kristen Almgren**, having a great week at Pilgrim Firs U.C.C. high school camp!



Phone: 932-5600/Fax 932-0401
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Fauntleroy Church UCC
 9140 California Avenue SW
 Seattle WA 98136-2556
 July 24, 2017

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	Bill McElroy
Financial Assistant	Bonnie Beerman
Financial Assistant	Pat Gedney
Office Manager	Jackie Gould

CONGREGATOR DEADLINE: TUESDAYS, 1 PM

OVER THE FENCE

NOTICE...CHANGE OF DATE!

The Sweet, Sweet Music: "Wine and the Spoken Word", originally scheduled for June 28, has been postponed until Nov. 17. More info will be shared in future Congregators.

TEAMWORK

The nametags have been updated and are now uniform. **Sarah Ackers, Judy Pickens** and I worked on the project. Please note that the first name is the one you look for instead of the last as the names are now on two different lines. We're hoping you'll get used to this new format. Thanks to Sarah and Judy! **Jackie**

The staff kitchen is looking sooooo much better these days! Thanks to **Gordy & Jenny Mandt**, who did the bulk of the work, **Phil Sweetland** and the Y's **Kent Edwards**. The Y paid for a portion of the electrical work and water hook-up needed to install the new coffee system. It's almost finished!

WANT A PIANO?

Christine Frishholz has a beautiful piano that she'll give to someone for the cost of hauling it away. If you're interested, call the church office, 206-932-5600.

CENTENNIAL VIDEO LINKS

For those who might be interested, here are the links to two videos from the Fauntleroy School House Centennial celebration:

<https://vimeo.com/222399988>
<https://vimeo.com/222291957>

A NOTE OF THANKS

On June 21 (for \$1,000) and June 26 (\$500), the church received a letter from the West Seattle Helpline, thanking us for supporting their organization. Here is part of the letters:

Your contribution will go directly to helping us meet emergency needs for individuals and families in our neighborhood here in West Seattle.

For over 27 years, the West Seattle Helpline has been proud to serve the needs of our community. You have made the community stronger by helping our neighbors get back on their feet. Our board, staff, volunteers and clients truly appreciate your support!

It was signed by **Chris Langelier**, Executive Director.

FUNDRAISERS

PLAN NOW TO DONATE TO 2ND TIME SALE

23RD ANNUAL
 **2nd Time Sale** of our 23rd annual **2nd Time Sale** Sept. 16-17

depends on our having LOTS of quality items to sell and now's the time to begin deciding what you'll be donating.

Think kitchenware, furniture, tools books, linens, art, jewelry, toys, and craft supplies. Visit www.fauntleroyucc.org/events, or call the church for a list of what we cannot accept.

This is an equal-opportunity sale in that we accept quality donations from anyone. If you have a neighbor or relative who's downsizing, mention the sale and that we'll happily provide a tax receipt.

If you have room, plan to keep donations until right after Labor Day, when you can bring them directly to Fellowship Hall. If you don't have room, call the church office to arrange for us to store them.

Thanks for helping make this much-anticipated community event a profitable one for church ministries!

Judy Pickens

BACK-TO-SCHOOL TIME ALREADY

The stores have started advertising deals on school supplies, meaning the start of a new school year is just weeks away. The *Pencil Me in for Kids* coordinator has launched another campaign to fund supplies for schools across West Seattle and our Homelessness Task Force is about to put our collective shoulder to the assignment. To help low-income/immigrant students throughout the year at Highland Park, Roxhill, and West Seattle elementaries, the task force is sponsoring our fourth annual **Back-to-School Supply Drive Aug. 1-20**. On the list:

Composition books
#2 pencils
Pencil pouches/boxes
Colored pencils (12/box)
Dry-erase markers (12/box)
White copy paper

Backpacks
Washable markers (10/box)
Pink rectangular erasers
Glue sticks
Pocket folders (Pee Chees)



Please take this list with you when you shop so you'll know what you buy is truly needed. Donation bins will be in the lobby and narthex. If you prefer, write a check to Fauntleroy Church ("school supplies") and we'll do the shopping for you.

Last year's drive enabled us to equip students with 69 composition books, 404 pencils, 37 erasers, 117 glue sticks, and 21 backpacks. Please give what you can toward a successful academic year for everyone at these schools. Thank you.

Judy Pickens

STAFF NEWS...

A DAY (OR THREE) IN THE LIFE

The week of July 4 was quite a time for me. I came in on Monday and couldn't find my keys to open my office door. The only other

person scheduled to be here that day was Lorrie and I wasn't sure when she'd arrive. I *didn't* want to call Billy on his vacation day! When I called Lorrie's cell, I had the wrong phone number! After about ½ an hour, when I was at my wits end, Lorrie walked up the stairs! I was so happy to see her! She was my first angel. **Thank you, Lorrie.** But, we opened my office and no keys. I then remembered I had lots of things in my hands when I locked my car, so my brain said I was "good to go". However, that wasn't the case, as I had left my keys in the car! Geez!

Wednesday, I was alone in the building with a few Y people who were here for their facility clean-up. When I went to make coffee, there was none, so I went down to the big kitchen to fetch more. When I went to open the pantry door, the floor was wet! I then noticed that neither the refrigerator nor freezer was running and when I opened the freezer door, everything was melted! Even the ice was just water. Yikes! I called Phil who helped me figure out the electric switch had been flipped and helped me figure out

which ones to flip back on. When I flipped those switches, electricity was restored. However, I still had a mess on my hands! After a few phone calls, **Pat Gedney and Marilynn Bernahl** volunteered to come in to clean it all up. ***I want to thank them profusely!*** They were my second and third angels!

Finally, on Thursday, I was called into Fellowship Hall by the Stage Struck Children's Theatre Group leader, who pointed out that the cleaned carpet wasn't so clean. So, I called the carpet cleaner and asked that he give me a call to schedule a time to come in and touch up the carpet. When I arrived at work on Friday morning, the carpet had been cleaned and was soaking wet! I was grateful, but...we had 40 kids and adults scheduled to practice for the morning, with the play to be performed at 2 PM that afternoon for 75+ people! Luckily, Billy was back and he set out a bunch of fans. Billy was my fourth angel! **Thank you, Billy!**

So, the moral to this story is don't ever count on having a "quiet" week and don't ever feel like you are alone. My week was nothing like I thought it would be, but I learned (or was reminded of) how lucky I am to have so many wonderful staff and members around me in this place called Fauntleroy Church.

Jackie Gould

CONFERENCE NEWS

Justice Leadership Jubilee, a sister program of the young adult Justice Leadership Program in our Conference, is looking for adults interested in deepening their faith and learning justice work skills!

The Justice Leadership Program has been a remarkable and transformative experience for young adults for several years now, so the Pacific Northwest Conference decided to extend the program to others. **Justice Leadership Jubilee** started last year as a model especially designed for adults who could commit 10-15 hours per week engaging in skills building, community work, church engagement, and collective reflection around justice. It is a non-residential program for adults who want to deeply integrate faith and justice work into their lives and communities. Jubilee is a name that signifies the responsibility of each generation to contribute to future generations' struggle for social, economic, racial and environmental justice.

Justice Leadership Jubilee is an intentional ten-month commitment for adults who want to learn how to participate in systemic change with the support of area agencies and a community of their peers. The Justice Leadership Program and Jubilee are funded in part by our Pacific Northwest Conference. To learn more or to apply for the 2017-2018 program online, go to justiceleadershipjubilee.org.

Karyn