

CHURCH AND HOME

UNIVERSITY CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



4515 16th Avenue N.E., Seattle, WA 98105-4201
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Small Gestures Make a Big Difference to Church Youth

On Sunday mornings, sitting in worship, my heart lifts when I see youth sitting with individuals who have volunteered to be mentors. The simplest gestures make a huge difference in the lives of our youth. We currently need approximately 16 mentors: eight for the current confirmation class, and eight additional mentors for youth not in confirmation, and for children and youth with special needs. Matches will be made this fall. Look for the mentor program table in the narthex on **Sept. 17** to find out more or to volunteer, or contact Tina Michalak at tinabina54@comcast.net or 206-789-3614.

Could you be the friendly face to welcome a teen to church? Could you be the one who just simply says, "I was hoping you would be here, I am glad to see you?" Would you be willing to send a card to acknowledge a passing grade, finishing the fall sports season, or wishing someone well in his or her new school?

Many times we feel we can't fill mentor roles because we haven't time or resources to plan outings and activities, but these aren't necessary. I have found that youth so appreciate the simplest gestures: a caring adult phoning the week after school starts and just asking, "How is school going?" "Did you find someone to eat lunch with?" Or sending a funny postcard unexpectedly. Small things such as these can be a real support to a teen struggling with homework, hormones, changing bodies and new expectations.

Perhaps you could offer to bring cookies to a youth group activity, or join us on one of our intergenerational Sunday mornings and introduce yourself to one youth you don't know. Look for them the next week and ask them how they are or just greet them by name. If we look past adolescent awkwardness, strange clothing and unusual hairstyles, we may see the face of a new friend, or even the face of God.

—Tina Michalak



International Day of Prayer for Peace

Give peace some of your time, voice, prayers and spirit. The University District Ecumenical Parish invites you to a time of PEACE. The churches of the University District, including our own, are responding to the call from the United Nations and the World Council of Churches for an International Day of Prayer for Peace to be held **Thurs., Sept. 21**. This is a 24-hour peace vigil, each church congregation and building taking a shift across the hours from one midnight to the next. University Congregational United Church of Christ hosts the vigil from **12 -3 p.m** in the chapel.

For those who cannot be part of the longer vigil, there is also a Public Witness for Peace on the steps of UCUC from **11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Our prayer now is that you will be able to find some time that day, perhaps a chunk of time, to participate in the vigil.

—Greg Turner

A complete 24-hour schedule of vigils at all University District churches will be posted on the red wall outside the church office.

All-Church Picnic on Sept. 24

The annual All-Church Picnic will be held on **Sunday, Sept. 24** at Ravenna Park. All members and friends are invited to gather immediately following Sunday worship. A shuttle from the church will be available. Registration in the narthex beginning **Sept. 3** is requested, but not required.

The location is just a few blocks from the church at the park entrance north of the Ravenna Boulevard-20th Ave N.E. intersection. Picnic tables have been reserved. The playground area is a short walk through the park. Bring some nibble-food, salad or dessert if you wish. Barbequed food and drinks will be served.

Children and Youth

Preschool News

The Miracle of God's Creation

Do you enjoy cuddling infants? Do you long for a bit of time to ponder at the miracle of God's creation, our precious babes? If this stirs something in you, then our youngest members need you! Opportunities are available once a month for this special ministry. If you are interested or would like more information, please feel free to contact Mary Kay Westmoreland at 206-524-2322, ext 3305 or at mkwestmoreland@universityucc.org.

Elementary News

Program Begins A New Year

Sept. 17 marks the beginning of our first elementary unit of the year. We will begin with exploration of the Sermon on the Mount and an introduction to the beatitudes. Our storyteller for this unit will be Christa Tinker. Our year one teacher will be Candi McCoy with Peter Tarczy-Hornoch as shepherd. Lynn Willman will shepherd our year two students. Our year three students will be taught by Kathryn Robinson and shepherded by David Ovens. Our year four and five students will be together in a combined class and shepherded by Laura Genoves.



2006 Christmas Pageant

Do you like to create costumes? Help children learn lines? Design and build sets and props? Are you a child or student who loves to sing and act? We are performing "Light of the World" by

Mark Patterson this year, and we need your talents and help!

There are opportunities for speakers, singers, bell ringers and percussionists for the children and youth. Adults are needed for help with costumes, props and other planning. Please contact Heather MacLaughlin Garbes at heather@garbes.net or 206-529-5191 if you have questions or would like to sign-up. Thank you!

—Heather MacLaughlin Garbes
Associate Music Conductor



A copy of our pastors' weekly schedule is posted in the church office. **For pastoral emergencies**, please call a pastor at **206-541-7984**, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. **Please call the church office at 206-524-2322 to report any illness, accident, or other situation of concern in our church family that needs pastoral attention.**

Celebration of St. Francis

University United Church of Christ and the Sacred Earth Group will host Earth Ministry's annual Celebration of St. Francis on **Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m.** This year's keynote speaker will be Professor David Domke, Associate Professor and Head of Journalism in the Department of Communication at the University of Washington. Professor Domke will be speaking on the importance of spiritually progressive language, messages, and media to augment faith-based environmental and social justice efforts.

The program will also include remarks by Reverend Lisa Domke. Music by the Shades of Praise Gospel Choir from St. Therese Catholic Church will help uplift and energize our souls.

Professor Domke is the author of *God Willing?: Political Fundamentalism in the White House, the "War on Terror," and the Echoing Press*. The book examines the strategic religious rhetoric of the Bush administration and the mainstream press's response.

At the St. Francis Celebration, UCUC will be among several congregations formally welcomed into the Earth Ministry community of Greening Congregations. Cost is a \$10 donation at the door.

—Mary Rose

Chair, Sacred Earth Group

Scripture and Leadership Training

Scripture and Leadership Training (SALT) is a program that gives people professional development certificates in Scripture, personal faith integration and solid community commitment. Classes start the week of **Sept. 25**. Contact the SALT Program at Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry at 206-296-5313 or SALT@seattleu.edu. for more information. Visit their web site at www.seattleu.edu/theomin.

CHURCH AND HOME

Submissions are due before:

Noon, Monday, Sept. 18 (Oct. 1–8 issue)

Noon, Monday, Oct. 2 (Oct. 15–22 issue)

Place in *Church and Home* box in the church office, fax to 206-524-0602, or e-mail to:

ChurchandHome@universityucc.org

Guidelines: *Signed* submissions must have a contact phone number and contain 100 words for notices of events; 350 words for articles. Articles may be edited for length and style.

Our Church Family

Help With Honoring Our Elders

Please help with our effort to honor our elders on **Sunday, Oct. 8**. We need people who could drive an elder member of our church to church, come to church early to greet elders, pin a rose on them, and sit with them in church. Contact Carol Scott-Kassner at 253-945-0047 or carolkassner@comcast.net if you are able to help.

Compassionate Listening Skills

A workshop on the basic skills of compassionate listening will be held at our church on **Oct. 14** from **9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** This workshop will introduce you to the core theory and practice of Compassionate Listening. You will practice basic exercises in listening from the heart, and begin to develop skills that you can take into and use in your daily life.

The cost of the workshop is a free will offering. Bring your own lunch. Please RSVP to Joy Helmer at joyhelmer@seanet.com or 206-783-9695 to reserve a place.

Senior Retreat on Oct. 10-11

Please join us at the Rainbow Lodge where Carol Scott-Kassner will lead us in a special program: "Savoring Salt and Light." Don Mackenzie is hoping that his surgery schedule will allow him to also be involved. Sign up in the church narthex on **Sept. 17** or in the church office anytime.

Men's Theme: "Life Changes"

The third annual Men's Gathering is on **Oct 27- 29** at Pilgrim Firs. This year our theme will be "Life Changes." We have recruited several workshop leaders from our own ranks. Come join us.

Sign up at a table in the narthex or in the church office. The cost is \$90. Scholarships will be available. For more information and encouragement, call Earl Hamilton at 206-363-4940, John Wilson at 206-525-6595, or Will Hultman at 206-784-6540.

Heather Attended Music Conference

I am so excited...about the Musicians Network Conference in Chapel Hill, NC from Aug. 4-7 that I attended (thanks to the Phyllis Swanson Endowment for Children and Youth Ministries). I met so many great people who have outstanding ideas about "new" ideas for worship. Thank you again for your continued support of my new position.

—Heather MacLaughlin Garbes
Associate Music Director

We Remember Anne "Nancy" Walker

Born: October 13, 1921

Died: August 25, 2006

Nancy Walker passed away on Aug. 25, 2006 following a courageous struggle with Alzheimer's disease. Nancy was born in Snoqualmie Falls, Washington. She was a lifelong resident of the Seattle area, and a summa cum laude graduate of the University of Washington.

She was married for sixty years to Kirby D. Walker. Nancy is survived by her husband, three children, five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and numerous cousins.

The University Congregational United Church of Christ was a central focus of Nancy's life. During her 75-year membership, she served as a devoted participant in every area of church life.

A memorial service to celebrate her life was held at University Congregational United Church of Christ on Saturday, Sept. 9, 2006 at 10 a.m. Condolences may be sent to Kirby Walker, 6720 E. Greenlake Way N., #732-33, Seattle, WA 98103.

Our Interim Minister Is Listening

George Meier, our interim minister, invites members of the congregation to meet with him on **Sunday morning, Sept. 24 at 9 a.m.** in the church lounge. He would like to hear from the church at large, and this is one of your chances to tell him whatever you think is important. What are the questions he should be thinking about? What do you want him to know about this church?

The interim minister meets regularly with a group of ten people called the Interim Advisory Committee, chaired by Courtney Hashimoto, but he also needs to hear from as many other church members as possible. Come with your ideas, questions, and comments. Also, feel free to contact the co-chairs or any other member of the committee.

Inquirers' Classes to Begin Soon

Inquirers' classes are designed for people who are considering joining this congregation, and for people interested in exploring their beliefs as they learn about this church's history, beliefs and ministries. The classes offer a great opportunity to meet other people in our church community.

Inquirers' classes will start with a potluck dinner at the church on **Oct. 15**. Then, three classes will take place at the church on the Sundays of **Oct. 22, Oct. 29** and **Nov. 5** from **11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Joining Sunday will be **Nov. 12**. If you are interested, sign up in the church office or contact Kathy Kripps at 206-522-7847 or kkripps@cbccomputer.com.

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Visit our web site: www.universityucc.org

Sunday Worship Service

10 a.m.

V September 17

Preacher: Catherine Foote
Scriptures: Matthew 5:1-2

V September 24

Preacher: Don Mackenzie
Scriptures: Psalm 1
Matthew 5:1-11

Wednesday Service

Taize-style worship, 6 p.m.
University Congregational
Chapel



Church and Home is published biweekly by University Congregational UCC. Editor: Barbara Long

Sunday, September 17

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sermon: "A Sermon For Life"

Text: "Then Jesus began to speak, and taught them, saying . . ." Matthew 5:2

The Gospel of Matthew collects the teachings of Jesus into one long discourse stretching over three chapters. In Matthew's story of Jesus, this "sermon" is delivered on the side of a hill near Galilee. We call this collection of teachings "The Sermon on the Mount." In it we discover the foundational teachings of the Christian faith: the Beatitudes, the Golden Rule, the Lord's Prayer, the promise that God's eye is on the sparrow and on us. These are words that transform us. Join us on Sunday, Sept. 17 as we begin our year-long journey with these teachings, with this "sermon for life." This is also Homecoming Sunday, and we will be honoring our twenty-five year or more members.

The chancel flowers, arranged by Winnie Coleman, are given in loving memory of their parents by John and Winnie Coleman.



Sunday, September 24

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sermon: "O Healing River!"

Text: "They are like trees, planted by streams of water . . ." Psalm 1:3a

This Sunday we begin a study of the Beatitudes, a short list of items pointing to a new world, a world of love and compassion rooted in an awareness of the presence of God. This is a collection of sayings of Jesus that properly introduces the rest of the Sermon on the Mount. So this Sunday, we'll explore the overall meaning of the Beatitudes and the ways they prepare us to understand the rest of the Sermon.

The chancel flowers are given by Claudia Patton in loving memory of her husband, Tom.

- International Day of Prayer for Peace
- Church Picnic on Sept. 24
- Sign Up for Senior Retreat

From the Staff

Sabbatical Brings Renewal

By Don Mackenzie

V One of my favorites cartoons from the *New Yorker Magazine* is a drawing of God and an angel standing on a cloud looking down on the earth. The caption is “I did it in six but I billed ‘em for seven.” At first I thought the humor was the jab at our need to account for every minute of our working time and the great temptation we have to cheat on that accounting. Now I think the humor is more the irony that the seventh is worth billing for. The seventh day, the Sabbath, has *value* that is at least equal to the other six days—maybe even more valuable because without the rest and perspective that a Sabbath change of pace can bring we become too tired and burned out to do our work effectively. But we don’t have Sabbath in our urban twenty-first century culture. And most people certainly don’t have sabbaticals.

So once again, I want to thank the Personnel Board and you, the congregation, for the extraordinary opportunity that a sabbatical brings with it; the chance to be renewed by experiencing a different pace of life—not necessarily slower, but different and that difference is what can bring a renewed perspective, a renewed passion for work. Clergy in this church have opportunities for sabbaticals because you are generous and offer it. But we wish that every human being could have such an opportunity because every human being deserves it no matter how his or her time is spent ordinarily.

In my sermon on Aug. 27, I gave a brief description of how I spent my time which combined some vacation and work on the book I am writing with Ted Falcon and Jamal Rahman. But being away gave me much more than just some time to rest. I had time to grieve losses, some of them happened last summer but those griefs triggered other emotions connected to other losses, most in our congregation, that have happened in the last several years. In fact, there was a day of tears, a day of real emptying, a precious day that brought with it space to be filled again. Inside that sense of grief and the sheer relief to be grieving, I, slowly over the whole time I was away, was able to come to a place where in writing one particular chapter of the book that contains my own story, and I was finally able to see the pieces of my life fitting together in a way that seemed to make sense. I’m doubtful I would have been able to do that without the space that was needed to think it through.

Inside all of that were two reunions with people whose lives have touched Judy’s and mine in very impor-

POINTS OF VIEW

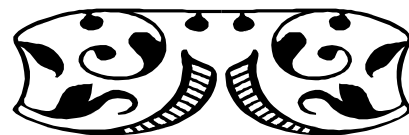
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tant ways. It was a time to give thanks for the road behind and to pray for strength and courage for the road ahead. And, as you now know, it was, at the end, a time of revelation about my prostate cancer, a complete surprise. None of this would have been possible without your support and from my heart I thank you.

The last week of my time away was neither sabbatical nor vacation, but time away granted especially by the Personnel Board to help lead a workshop on Orcas Island with Ted and Jamal on the tension between spirituality and religion. We had sixty people in a conversation about the difference between spirituality, the substance of the life of faith, and religion, the vehicle that makes spirituality accessible. By itself religion is a “form” and spirituality is the “substance” that fills the form and gives vitality and life to faith. Can spirituality exist without religion, without a conveyance? What happens to religion when the substance gets forgotten?

Throughout human history there have been cycles when people have needed to be recalled to the substance of their faith, called back from a religion that had been emptied of substance by the mere repetition of practices—another reason to create at least Sabbath moments in life. Moses had this as his mission, the prophets had this, Jesus had this, Mohammed has this. This issue is a place where the experience of the three monotheistic faiths intersect. You’ll be hearing more about that.

In the meantime, I hope that you will be encouraged to do all that you can to create Sabbath moments in your life even if for only five minutes per day. Sit quietly, light a candle and listen to your heart. I know from my own experience how difficult it is to come by quiet moments especially in families with young children, but I believe it can be done. May God bless and keep each of you.



As I See It

A Bible Lesson

By Lee Ferreira

V I grew up in a small, seaside town in New England. It was a farming and fishing town close to Plymouth, Massachusetts. My grandparents came to this town from Portugal as young parents accompanied by their two small children. They acquired a farm, and subsequently, the size of their family grew to eleven. My brothers and our cousins spent a good portion of our summer vacations working on the farm. There was planting, and tending the gardens and the orchards, and taking care of the animals. Along the edge of the vegetable garden that was closest to the house, my grandmother planted a long row of sunflowers. They towered over our small beings. To us they seemed to be the tallest plants for miles around. And, we thought that they made the gardens look happy.

When I was seven years old, my family moved into a large house that was built in the early nineteenth century. It was located not very far from my grandparents' farm. Originally, it was a country inn. The house stood on a hill, with a good-sized pond below it. During the summers, we liked to go to the pond, where we could catch turtles and frogs. Next to the pond was a grist mill (another good play area), and beyond that was the Gulph River, which winds through the wetlands before emptying into the town harbor.

On Sunday mornings, my brother and I put on our white shirts and ties and set off on our two mile walk to church. After going through the village, we walked up the hill until we approached the entrance to the farm where the "mean goose" lived. At that point, we would shush each other. We began to tiptoe. More often than not, the "mean goose" spotted us. And, the chase was on! Making loud goose noises and flapping his wings, he chased us along Country Way until we had left his territory.

When we reached our small church, we raced up-stairs to the sanctuary and sat in a pew in the back. With our hands folded in our laps, we looked down. Some people thought that we were praying. Actually, we were checking for damage . . . torn clothing, scuffed shoes, an occasional skinned knee. After our self-inspection, our young eyes would usually look up at the large wall at the front of the sanctuary.

On the wall was a large mural. It looked like part of a page from the Bible and it displayed the following passage: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him, shall not perish but shall have everlasting life." John 3:16. I didn't know the meaning of the word "begotten" but I understood the rest of it. I thought that believing in that verse helped us to get safely past the farm where the "mean goose" lived.

We spent our growing-up years living in that house and attending that small church until we were old enough to go out and experience the real world.

The Wider Community

Bill Gates Sr. Leads Tax Forum

Bill Gates Sr. will lead a forum on tax reform in Washington State on **Sept. 17 at 9 a.m.** entitled "Wealth and Our Commonwealth" in Ostrander Hall in our church. Mr. Gates chaired the Washington State Tax Structure Study Committee in 2002 at the invitation of Governor Gary Locke. The committee assessed the tax structure and recommended adopting a state income tax which would be less regressive than the current tax system. A 2003 study by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy found that Washington's state and local taxes were the most regressive in the country.

Bill Gates Sr. has also coauthored, with Chuck Collins, *Wealth and Our Commonwealth—Why America Should Tax Accumulated Fortunes*, and has been an outspoken advocate for retaining the federal estate tax. He helped form the Initiative for Global Development, a group of local civic and political leaders urging the U.S. government to increase the level of foreign assistance to combat global poverty.

Sign Up for Dead Sea Scrolls

The Pacific Science Center will present an historic exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls in late Sept. Our church will sponsor a tour of the exhibit on **Sunday, Oct. 22 at 1 p.m.** The discounted tickets must be purchased from the church on or before **Friday, Sept. 22.** Buy them in the narthex before and after Sunday services before that date. Discounted tickets will be sold only through the church. For more information, contact Barbara Deppe at 206-784-1710 or bdeppe7@hotmail.com.

Iona Pilgrimage Still Has Room

The Iona Pilgrimage, June 22-29, 2007 to Scotland is almost full. We currently have three twin rooms available. If you would like to join our group, please sign up soon. We have limited, partial scholarships available. Contact Tina Michalak, pilgrimage coordinator at tinabina54@comcast.net or 206-789-3614. Contact Catherine Foote for scholarship information. Registration forms are available in the church office.

Join us as we begin...

A Year With The Sermon on the Mount



Fall to Winter 2006
Christian Education Hour
September 17 through December 31
Starting at 9 a.m.



UNIVERSITY CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"Deepening faith for transforming Christian discipleship"

The Sermon on the Mount

Welcome to our year of learning opportunities
for people of all ages!

We are excited about our theme, The Sermon on the Mount, and we are looking forward to experiencing the growth of our congregational spirit through classes and conversations about the central themes of Jesus' ministry. As many of you know, this was central to the ministry of Dale Turner and we are pleased to be carrying it forward. Many during his time memorized the sermon. Those who did received a free lunch at the Space Needle with Dale. There are many stories to be told about that!

Be sure to notice the schedule of intergenerational Sundays this fall and also note that the pre-school curriculum, "Building Blocks of Faith," will be used at the 10 o'clock hour.

Let us pray that this is a year of growth for each of us.

Don Mackenzie



Fall Schedule

This year our intergenerational days will be on the first Sunday of each month, "First (gathering of the day) on the First." Themes will be introduced at the beginning of the month, with additional study in age-specific groups the following weeks.

September 17-24

Sermon on the Mount and Introduction of the Beatitudes

Matthew 5:1-7:29

Regular programming for adults, youth, elementary and k/preschool

October 1

"First on the First" Intergenerational Sunday Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes, What It Means to be Blessed

October 8-29

Regular programming for adults, youth, elementary and k/preschool

November 5

"First on the First" Intergenerational Sunday Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus' Third Way of Peace

November 12-26

Regular programming for adults, youth, elementary and k/preschool

December 3

"First on the First" Intergenerational Sunday Matthew 5:13-16

Advent

December 10-24

Regular programming for adults, youth, elementary & k/preschool

Children & youth prepare for Pageant during 9a.m. CE hour.

Christmas Pageant during 10a.m. service on December 24.

December 31

Discovery Bible for adults.



A note about our Intergenerational Sundays

All ages are invited to learn together. The morning begins with a 9 a.m. gathering in Ostrander Hall, to include songs, prayer and a story. This gathering time will be followed by "free choice" activities throughout the building. *Children who are able to participate responsibly and independently in activities, and who can also navigate the church building on their own, are invited to make their own activity choices. Younger, less independent children are asked to remain with their parents and choose an activity as a family.*

Class Descriptions Adult Education at 9 a.m.

Blessed Are You: The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life - September 17, 24; October 8-29

Using the Kerygma format (an adult Bible study resource) we will explore the background and the message of Matthew 5: 1-12, the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount, known as the Beatitudes.

Parenting the Beatitudes - September 17, 24; October 8-29; November 12-26; December 10, 17

An informal gathering of parents to talk about the Sermon on the Mount and parenting issues. Much of what is taught there is central to the lives we want for our children and ourselves. How to we create a home where spiritual growth can happen? How do we encourage each other on the journey?

This class is an informal, drop in class, and parents who want to bring young children are welcome. Bring your own toys, or let your children play with those that are available in the classroom.

Bible Discovery - Every Sunday

Join this ongoing Bible study group as they look together at scripture, discuss its meaning, and consider its message for everyday life.

The Dead Sea Scrolls - October 8

Join us for a conversation about the Dead Sea Scrolls and their relationship to our knowledge of Christianity and the Bible. This discussion can be preparation for a visit to the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit in Seattle. Our congregation is going to this exhibit on October 22 at 1:00p.m. The deadline for purchasing these tickets is September 22nd. Tickets are available on Sundays in the Narthex, through September 17th, or contact Roger Miller at (206)784-3619.

Christmas Stories - December 10 and 17

This is a repeat of a popular class that looks at contemporary stories around the theme and season of Christmas and considers what these great writers have to tell us about this amazing time of year.

Salt and Light - December 10 and 17

The Sermon on the Mount moves from the Beatitudes to Jesus' statement that his followers are salt and light in the world. This Bible study will consider the meaning of those words, especially during the Advent season.

Adult Education at Other Times:

Jesus Study Group - September 10, October 8, November 12, 7-9p.m. This group meets the second Sunday of the month in the evening, for lively discussions of current Jesus scholarship. Contact Bob Fitzgerald at (206) 784-4634 for more details.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Every Tuesday morning, 10 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Come and be a part of this ongoing Bible study group as they look together at scripture, discuss its meaning, and "care for and pray for one another." For more information, contact Catherine Foote at (206) 524-2322, ext. 3313.

An Invitation to Memorize The Sermon on the Mount

Many years ago Rev. Dale Turner invited all in his Confirmation classes to memorize the Sermon on the Mount. Those who did were rewarded with lunch on the top of the Space Needle. During our study this year of that same Sermon, your pastors are again extending the same invitation, this time to the whole congregation! (And there are some among us who still know it from their own confirmation with Dr. Turner). CDs are available beginning September 24 to help with your memory work. Even if you don't want to memorize the whole Sermon, you will still want to pick up one of these recordings, featuring the entire Sermon on the Mount read by Terry, Corrie, and Tallis Moore.



Coming in the Winter and Spring - Here is just a sample of some offerings that will be available in the winter and spring of 2007:

Marcus Borg - International Jesus scholar Marcus Borg has long had a special relationship with our congregation. He will be with us the weekend of February 23 and 24 to speak about some of his latest research. This visit also celebrates the ten year anniversary of our Jesus Study Group. Save the date, and watch for details. For more information, contact Tina Michalak at (206) 789-3614.

Lenten Study Groups - Lent in 2007 begins Wednesday, February 21 (Ash Wednesday). We will continue our congregation's tradition of studying together in small groups, meeting for five weeks through Lent. In 2007 we will be studying *The Last Week, A Day by Day Account of Jesus' Final Week in Jerusalem*, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan.



This I Believe - Those who are familiar with this National Public Radio series know that this class will be an invitation to write our own stories of faith and share them with one another. We will follow the NPR guidelines in our writing.

The Sermon on the Mount and Other Faiths

An examination of how the message of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount is related to messages of other faiths.

Adult Education Forums

Sponsored by the Justice and Outreach Ministries
Forums are offered during the 9 a.m. Christian Ed Hour.

September 17 "Wealth and Our Commonwealth."

Bill Gates, Sr. Speaks on Tax Reform in Washington State

Bill Gates Sr. will share with us his expertise on the rationale and possibilities for tax reform in Washington State. Gates chaired the Washington State Tax Structure Study Committee in 2002, at the invitation of Governor Gary Locke. He is a co-author of *Wealth and our Commonwealth—Why America Should Tax Accumulated Fortunes*, and an outspoken advocate for retaining the federal estate tax.

September 24 "Our Faith, Our Taxes" - Follow-up discussion about tax reform, the budget, and our faith.

October 1 "Beyond Stewardship" - Join us for an intergenerational celebration of Creation to recognize St. Francis' Day. We will share poems and songs that celebrate the sacredness of Creation. We may also begin to explore how we move from a sense of dominion and separation to a sense of sacred relationship with all the earth. Sponsored by the Sacred Earth Group.

November 5

"Decision-Making in a Time of War: How Do We Serve?" Or "Reflections on Faith, Military Service, and Conscientious Objection" - Youth and adult members of UCUC share their experiences and reflections on military service and conscientious objection. How does our faith speak to us on this important & urgent faith dilemma for youth & for us all?

December 3

“Marking World AIDS Day: What is Hopeful in 2006?”

Loyce Mbewa and colleagues will update us on the global state and human faces of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and share with us how we can be involved in bringing healing and hope.

Youth Ministry and Education

Throwing Yourself in the Waves:
Doing Justice Together



Where would you like to have an experience of risking and growing in faith together? What issues of justice do you care about? During the coming school year (September – June) we are going to be learning about the CORE of the Jesus Way of Life which is contained in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5 –7). For everyone who MEMORIZES the Sermon on the Mount before June 3 we are offering lunch at the Space Needle with the minister of your choice. To celebrate all of us who will be DOING Justice together this year - we are going to Wild Waves on Saturday, June 16! During the year we will have 8-10 opportunities to DO justice work together. What would you like to DO together? What would stretch you? What would be exciting for you?

We are working to make this year’s program simple and consistent. Here is an outline of what you can expect throughout the month:

1st Sundays: “Intergenerational Sundays.” Also, on the first Sunday of every month we will join middle school and high

school youth at other UCC churches from 2pm-4pm for fellowship and fun. Look for more information in each month's newsletter.

2nd Sundays: "2nd Sunday High School Youth Gathering"

The second Sunday of every month will be a high school youth gathering at the home of Carol and Ed Coleman from 5:30-8pm. There will also be a small program led by Margaret Irribarra and Peter Ilgenfritz.

4th Sundays: Justice Sundays – as explained above.

Elementary Education

Elementary Christian Education will join other groups in focusing on the Sermon on the Mount for the entire school year. Each session will start with an all-elementary community gathering time which includes storytelling and music. The storytelling continues the theme started by the intergenerational gathering devoted to the topic.

Children spend the remainder of their hour split into four age groups (Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Years 4, 5 combined) engaged in activities reinforcing the Bible story and theme.

This year the program will use a combination of the workshop rotation model and a more traditional Sunday school model. In the workshop rotation model, children "rotate" amongst a series of teachers, each of whom repeats their lesson to a different group of children each week. When a more traditional structure is used, children remain with the same teacher/shepherd combination for the entire unit.

Under both models, we attempt to explore Bible stories using multiple educational methods and tools, realizing that children learn using a variety of senses and skills.



Preschool and Kindergarten Education

9:00 a.m.

During the 9:00am Christian Education Hour one preschool room will be open. This childcare room will serve children between the ages of 2yrs-5yrs/Kindergarten, offering safe place for play.

10:00 a.m.

This year our Christian Education program will kick off the year with the new Building Blocks of Faith Curriculum. This home-grown curriculum is based on six basic “building blocks” of faith which include God Made Me, God Loves Me, God Teaches Me, God Listens to Me, God’s Love is for Sharing and God Takes Care of Me. Each block has user-friendly lessons that support the broader concept in ways appropriate for each developmental level (2 years – K/5 years). These concepts will be reinforced with Bible stories, other stories that speak to the theme, prayers, music, crafts, games, activities, worship connections and ideas for parents and families.

Our Christian Education classes will continue to be held during the 10:00 a.m. worship hour. The preschoolers and kindergarteners will attend the beginning of worship with their families and will be dismissed to their classrooms early in the service.

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