



BROADVIEW COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

STEEPLE NEWS

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Steeple News
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Edited by Bobbi Dvkema

Pastoral Reflection

What Feeds Your Spirit?

What feeds your spirit? What nourishes you? What keeps you going? I was thinking of that this morning as I made a conscious decision not to turn on NPR, but to enjoy the quiet of the early morning. The stillness seemed so delicious as the light of dawn began to fill the room.

It was thinking of my daughter Lisa that prompted me to do this. Lisa, on waking, turns on no radio, no Internet, no lights in her house, instead rises with the cycles of nature, in the fall and even winter, beginning her morning stretches and warming of teas in the dark, awaiting the coming of the dawn. Of course Lisa lives in California, where the darkness is shorter and the sun a much more ready presence, even in the winter, than here in the Northwest. But no matter, it works for me even in the Northwest when I turn off the distractions and allow space for "the soul...to stand ajar, ready to welcome the ecstatic experience." (Emily Dickinson). Ahh.

In comes another thought, a little jarring. I remember the many years when having that kind of space in the morning was just not an option. When the house was full of people, and I, responsible for the morning feedings of little ones, or getting the lunches packed for school and getting the kids – not always in the best mood – to school and myself to work early. And the evenings not much easier with car pools, food preparation, homework helping, meetings. Time for quiet, alone, feeding the spirit? Not so easy. Then it was grabbing moments in between for quiet, perhaps a walk, time to read, pray,

meditate. It was friends helping out, giving me time away alone.

Whatever age, whatever the conditions in your life, your spirit needs to be fed. What feeds your spirit?

Blessings and Peace,

Jan



BCUCC News & Notes

Singers Needed!

Make new friends, learn new skills, and praise God in song!

Please join us for the fall choir season! Our first rehearsals will be on October 16 and 23 from 7-8:30 pm; we'll also rehearse three Thursdays each month in November and December. All are welcome, regardless of skill level or musical background. Regular (but not perfect) attendance at rehearsals is expected for those who wish to sing on Sunday mornings. Please see Niki with questions, or contact her at cornedbeef@gmail.com or 283-2882



October & November Birthdays

October

Noah Witmer	10/5
Jane (Ostby) Sorenson	10/7
Maisie Chen	10/8
Ed Crouch	10/12
Isabella Hoffman	10/16
Sara Qualin	10/16
Suzanne Cressey	10/17
Ross Cavanaugh	10/18
Mo Pomietto	10/20
Bill Andrews	10/20
Niki Athis	10/22
Caleb Bean	10/23
Dorothy Long	10/31

November

John Witmer	11/2
Katey Bean	11/4
Nell Shamrell	11/5
Jo Royal	11/8
Byron Scott	11/9
Kathleen Lundt	11/12
Judy Hoehler	11/15
Laurie Ford	11/17
Gail Williams	11/19
Lisa Johnson Hill	11/22
Gail Crouch	11/23
Chris Hylander	11/23
Steve Jahns	11/24
Marj Lindsay	11/25
Andrew Estep	11/26
Humberto Alvarez	11/30

UPCOMING EVENTS.....

T'ai Chi Ch'uan

Yang Style T'ai Chi Class

Wednesdays, 6-7pm, Oct 15 – Dec 3

8 weeks \$70 or \$10 per class

Registration or Questions Call Mary 206-364-6297

BCUCC Fellowship Hall

Visitors Welcome

T'ai Chi Ch'uan is classical Chinese exercise; a rhythmical art that enhances slow breathing, balance, relaxed postures and absolute calmness of mind. T'ai Chi Ch'uan promotes health and tranquility. It is a moving meditation, a healing art, stillness, a martial art, and more.

Reuse and Recycle!

One Weekend – Three Events:

Rummage & Bake Sale,

Saturday, October 18, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Textile Recycling Drive, October 16-19

Electronics Recycling Event, October 18

Prospect Congregational UCC

1919 E Prospect St, Seattle

Prospect Congregational United Church of Christ is holding a rummage sale/textile drive as a joint fundraiser for the church and preschool. Old clothes, rags, textiles, and clothing that does not sell at the rummage sale will go into the "Clothes for a Cause" truck, to be recycled into things like insulation. Prospect cannot accept donations for the rummage sale on sale day but will still accept old clothing and textiles for the truck on Saturday and Sunday. Also on Saturday, Oct. 18, Windermere Real Estate around the corner on 19th will be holding an electronics recycle and document shredding community service event.

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Letter to BCUCC from Pastoral Search Committee

The Search and Call Committee has started its work and is planning to meet every other Sunday for now. The basic steps are to complete a local church profile (which will need everyone's input), clarify what we're looking for (ditto), review profiles of potential candidates that are sent to us by the council, get to know the contenders and make a choice, then share that choice with the congregation. The letter I have attached is provided by the council and shares these steps in more detail so we encourage everyone to read it over. We'll be making regular progress reports to the congregation; the process typically takes about four to nine months.

Dear BCUCC,

As members of the Search Committee, we want to express our gratitude for the trust you have placed in us. We have concluded our orientation meeting with Rev. Mike Denton, our Conference/Association Minister who will work closely with us. The purpose of this letter is to share with you a brief summary of the Search and Call process in the United Church of Christ.

1. We will seek your perspectives on our church and its ministry through a questionnaire and a series of small group meetings; as a result of this listening process, we will incorporate your ideas about new pastoral leadership into the "Local Church Profile" that we will develop.
2. Our vacancy will then be listed in "UCC Employment Opportunities."
3. Persons who have been authorized to complete a UCC Ministerial Profile will submit profiles for our committee through the Conference/Association office. The Ministerial Profile includes information about the candidate's educational background, experience, a detailed faith statement, eight written references, a background check form, and a criminal background check.

4. While the work on the Local Church Profile requires the input of many in the congregation, the names of candidates are held in strict confidence within our committee; we ask you to respect the essential confidentiality of this process. We will make every effort to keep you informed—on a regular basis—about our progress.
5. We will share our Local Church Profile with candidates, and we will begin to follow up with persons in whom we have particular interest. The follow up will include telephone reference checks, telephone interviews, and requests for sermon tapes. While pursuing these steps, we will also continue to evaluate new Ministerial Profiles.
6. We will select a small number of candidates for personal interviews, following which we will make arrangements for our Search Committee members to worship with them, most often in a church setting arranged by our Conference/Association office.
7. We will invite at least two candidates back for second interviews, following which we will seek God's guidance and prayerfully make a decision on a candidate.
8. If the candidate we recommend chooses to accept, compensation arrangements will be clarified, and a date for a "candidating Sunday" will be established.
9. You will have an opportunity to meet the candidate (and family) that weekend in an informal setting as well as the formal worship service where the candidate will preach. A congregational meeting following the worship service will offer each member an opportunity to ask questions of the Search Committee, and to vote on the Call to our new pastor.

We are grateful during this time for the excellent interim leadership of Rev. Jan Van Pelt. We profoundly trust that God will guide both our candidates and the members of our Search Committee. We ask you to pray for us regularly.

We are blessed with a wonderful church community; with hard work and God's guidance, we will be blessed with a wonderful pastor to guide us as we minister in the name of Jesus Christ.

Members of the committee include Tom Ward, Jerry Watson, Chris Foss, Harry Hoehler, Kelsey Harrington, Jane Witmer, Kay Groves, Pete Thorn, and Laurie Ford, who will be serving as chair, Chris as corresponding secretary, Kelsey as recording secretary, and Jane will be coordinating the writing of the church profile once we have all collected the information. People are welcome to call (206 303-0672) or email (kelso1314@hotmail.com) Laurie if they have questions.



LECTIONARY READINGS

Oct. 5, 2014 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 21-20

Ps 19 or Isa 5:1-7

Ps 80:7-15

Phil 3:4b-14

Matt 21:33-46

Green

Oct. 12, 2014 – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 32:1-14

Ps 106:1-6, 19-23 or Isa 25:1-9

Ps 23

Phil 4:1-9

Matt 22:1-14

Green

Oct. 19, 2014 – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 33:12-23

Ps 99 or Isa 45:1-7

Ps 96:1-9, (10-13)

1 Thess 1:1-10

Matt 22:15-22

Green

Oct. 26, 2014 – Reformation Sunday

Deut 34:1-12

Ps 90:1-6, 13-17 or Lev 19:1-2, 15-18

Ps 1

1 Thess 2:1-8

Matt 22:34-46

Red

Nov. 2, 2014 – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Josh 3:7-17

Ps 107:1-7, 33-37 or Mic 3:5-12

Ps 43

1 Thess 2:9-13

Matt 23:1-12

Green

Nov. 9, 2014 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Josh 24:1-3a, 14-25

Ps 78:1-7 or Wisd of Sol 6:12-16 or Amos 5:18-24

Wisd of Sol 6:17-20 or Ps 70

1 Thess 4:13-18

Matt 25:1-13

Green

Nov. 16, 2014 – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Judg 4:1-7

Ps 123 or Zeph 1:7, 12-18

Ps 90:1-8 (9-11), 12

1 Thess 5:1-11

Matt 25:14-30

Green

Nov. 23, 2014 – Reign of Christ

Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24

Ps 100 or Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24

Ps 95:1-7a

Eph 1:15-23

Matt 25:31-46

Green or White

Nov. 30, 2014 – First Sunday of Advent

Isa 64:1-9

Ps 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Cor 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

Violet or Blue

Poetry & Prayers

Fall Song

Another year gone, leaving everywhere
its rich spiced residues: vines, leaves,

the uneaten fruits crumbling damply
in the shadows, unmaterring back

from the particular island
of this summer, this NOW, that now is nowhere

except underfoot, moldering
in that black subterranean castle

of unobservable mysteries — roots and sealed
seeds
and the wanderings of water. This

I try to remember when time's measure
painfully chafes, for instance when autumn
flares out at the last, boisterous and like us
longing
to stay — how everything lives, shifting

from one bright vision to another, forever
in these momentary pastures.

From Mary Oliver, *American Primitive* (1984),
which won the Pulitzer Prize in poetry.



Leftovers

Let's face it, Thanksgiving is often a strain. You have to dress up and behave and there's all that ritual fuss and bother with too many people and too much food. Exhausting. But two nights later is a different story. There's good news in the fridge by then solid-gold leftovers. The pecan pie has ripened and congealed now, so you can pick up a big piece with your hand. The cranberry sauce has matured; the dark meat of the turkey is easy to peel off the bone. And the dressing has transmogrified into something that would give truffles and caviar a run for the money. THIS is the way dressing ought to taste!

A true prayer of thanksgiving is in order. This is not a group activity. It is a private religious experience. In the holy solitude of the midnight hour, you are taking communion with the spirits of bird and fruit and field. The best moments of past feasts come to mind. And it is at times like these you have no doubt that life is good, that your family, all tucked away in their beds, are royal folks, and that grace abounds. Amen.

Leftovers in their less visible form are called memories. Stored in the refrigerator of the mind and the cupboard of the heart. These are just a few of mine that came up tonight: the laughter of a friend, the last embers of a great fire, the long glance of love from my spouse from across a room full of people, an unexpected snowfall, the year everything went wrong and turned out right, and a chunk of poetry I learned in high school. I'm not often aware that I am happy. But I often remember that I have been happy. Especially when I sit in my kitchen wrapped in an invisible patchwork quilt made of the best moments of yesterdays. These precious things these leftovers from living on-remain to serve as survival rations for the heart and soul. You can't entirely live off them. But life is not worth living without them.

--Robert Fulghum, *Uh-Oh: Some Observations from Both Sides of the Refrigerator Door*

Broadview Community
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Seattle, WA 98133

NON-PROFIT
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PERMIT NO. 602

Non-Profit Office Space Available

*Office space available immediately in
Broadview Community United Church of Christ.*

Space 1 – located on the 3rd floor - approximately 378 sf (15 X 24). 2 cubicle stations already set up. Access to small bathroom and shared kitchen. 24/7 access with parking. \$450 per month including electricity.

Must be a qualifying non-profit agency.

Further inquiries can be made to Bobbi Dykema in the BCUCC church office at
206-363-8060