

Soundings



Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church June Newsletter

My dear church family,



Welcome to June! We are only one month away from our big anniversary celebration service and luncheon, July 17. Fifty years ago Shoreline UU Church was founded and I am looking forward to celebrating with you. Do you know any former ministers, interns, staff members, or members? Please let Laurie in the office know how we can contact them so an invitation can be issued, and let them know you hope they will be there! All are welcome to this celebration.

Our big day will begin with the worship service, where we will explore the history of the congregation and imagine where we are headed. Following the service we will share a potluck lunch. Memories will be shared, friendships rekindled, and our church family celebrated!

Our theme this month is Mystery. For that past two centuries liberal theologians have wondered--can there be religion without belief in a supernatural deity? Can there be a faith tradition that doesn't require the concrete worship of a creator/ruler? While in other parts of the world religions are not necessarily theistic (think Jainism, Confucianism, some forms of Buddhism, Taoism) here in the US we tend to think of faith in terms of worshipping a deity.

Unitarian Universalism is the exception to our nation's cultural assumptions about faith communities. We gather not to worship a particular creator or sustainer, but ponder and celebrate the mysteries at the center of our existence. The UU theologian and minister Forrest Church defined religion as "our human response to the dual reality of being alive and having to die." Mystery is at the center of our religious community, and rather than try to paper over the unknown with ancient scripture we delight in wondering about the great questions. Rather than walk in lockstep we ponder together. Rather than privileging the words and deeds of a certain group, thousands of years ago, we honor the words of all great thinkers and those who gather with us today. We marvel at scientific discoveries that inspire holy awe.

I look forward to thinking about mystery with you this month. A great book to augment our Sunday morning adventures is *Reason and Reverence: Religious Humanism in the 21st Century*, by William R. Murry, former dean and president of the UU seminary Meadville Lombard, and a minister and chaplain. I hope to hear all your thoughts on mystery as we journey through June together.

Warmly,
Rev Kate

June 2016

Worship Services, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 5:
"A Riddle and a Mystery,"
Rev. Kate Landis

Sunday, June 12:
Flower Communion: an all-ages
celebration of diversity. Rev.
Kate Landis. Choir sings, teacher
appreciation

Sunday, June 19:
"Mysterious Nihilism: Finding
Comfort in Nothing," Amanda
Ray, Pulpit Guest

Sunday, June 26:
Before Selma...and Beyond,"
Rev. Dr. Gordon Gibson, Pulpit
Guest

Happy **50th** Anniversary SUUC!
1966-2016



Director of Religious Exploration

Hello, everyone! As you read this, the official start of the RE summer program will be upon us! This summer starts with a few special days. First, we'll be taking our annual walk to Twin Ponds Park on Sunday, June 5. It's a nice way to mark the transition to the summer program when children in grades kindergarten and up are all together in one large class as well as to take in the change of seasons with all of our senses. And speaking of marking the change of seasons, after church this day there will be a special event--rather than trying to have multiple post-church events this month, we'll be combining this month's potluck with an earthy ritual to mark the changing of the seasons led by members of Shoreline UU's Pagan Group (aka GreenSong CUUPS). The first part of the ritual will be accessible to folks of any age while the second is better suited for older children and adults. There will also be cake to celebrate the new members that have joined SUUC over the last year, so stick around after church this day for an afternoon of earth-centered ritual, food with old friends, and cake with new ones!

The following Sunday, June 12, is a big service in which we'll celebrate the RE program as a whole, highlighting the contributions of our congregants who spent time with children and youth in the classes this year and shining a light on the children themselves, especially the ones moving up to a new class in the coming year. This will also be the day we will celebrate Flower Communion, a ritual celebrated in hundreds of UU churches across the globe. The Flower Communion is an annual ritual that celebrates beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. Originally created in 1923 by Unitarian minister Norbert Capek of Prague, Czechoslovakia, the Flower Ceremony was introduced to the United States by Rev. Maya Capek, Norbert's widow. In this ceremony, everyone in the congregation brings a flower. Each person places a flower on the altar. The congregation and minister bless the flowers, and they're redistributed. Each person brings home a different flower than the one they brought.

There's plenty of other great stuff planned for June and beyond, but I've just about run out of space! I'll use what's left to ask for any and all of you who can spend a few days with me and the children this summer to get in touch with me soon, as we could still really use a few extra folks for summer! Thanks!

And thank you, as always, for taking time out of your day to read this and stay up to date with the goings on at our wonderful church community. I hope that your summer is full of warmth, of both the solar and interpersonal varieties. See you on Sunday,

Chris Pollina, shorelinedre@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Sunday, June 5--Annual K-8 Twin Ponds Trek!

Please note that this Sunday children will leave at 10:30 sharp - please try to arrive by 10:20 to ensure your child doesn't miss the walk!

Sunday, June 5--Family Potluck / GreenSong CUUPS ritual / welcoming new members

See above for details.

Sunday, June 12--Teacher Appreciation / Flower Communion / Children's "Graduation"

This is always a big day. If it's possible, please attend this Sunday to honor the children and adults who took part in Sunday morning religious exploration together this year! Also, bring a flower to share for our Flower Communion ceremony.

Minutes from the Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 22

Before the meeting, it was determined that a quorum had been reached, with 59 members having checked in.

Committee Elections: The Nominating Committee presented this year's slate of nominees.

For the Board of Trustees: Judi Kalitzki, Juel Erickson

Elected unanimously

For the Endowment Committee: Dev Nambi, Christian Moore

Elected unanimously

For the Nominating Committee: Noel Bain

Elected unanimously

For the Moderator: Rick Wilson

Elected unanimously

Building Committee Report: Paul Borrmann spoke on behalf of the Building Committee. Paul attended a meeting with the city of Shoreline about our requested waiver from the city's parking space requirements. The letter came back informing us that we would need to apply for a conditional use permit. Our consultant believes that we will be granted the conditional use permit but predicts that acquiring it will require 3-6 months. We have not gotten a firm deadline from the builder yet as to when we would have to be ready if we are going to start building during the winter of 2017.

A number of questions were asked about the parking situation. The number of additional parking spaces the city would normally require is 25, and adding that many would be problematic as it would require us to remove the orchard which would impact other requirements such as having adequate drainage for the site. We will likely try to arrange a carpool plan but the city will not give us credit for it for our parking situation.

Capital Campaign Report: The Endowment Committee has voted unanimously to offer the church a loan of \$100,000 towards the financing of the new building, at an interest rate of 5%. Since 70% of the income from the Endowment investments goes to the church, the church would get 70% of that money back.

Puget Sound Business Lending Group (through Verity Credit Union) is interested in loaning us the rest of the money we need. Today their rate is 4.5% for a 30 year mortgage, but the actual number would not be locked in until we sign. They would also give us short term loans if we need them to.

A number of questions were asked about financing. We still need \$200,000 in short term loans, which would pay 1%. Money would be returned to members if the building plans fall through.

A motion was made to authorize starting construction, conditional on permitting and finance being worked out. A substitute amendment was adopted urging the Board and Building Committee to move forward and commending them for the hard work they've already done. This motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by Adam Griffith

Money Talks—

Overcoming Obstacles



The Chrysalis replacement project is moving forward--and it WILL be built.

Yes, we had a disappointing and frustrating meeting with the City of Shoreline Planner. A year after getting verbal assurance that we would NOT need a Conditional Use Permit, we were told on May 5th that we DO need one. The parking issue will only be resolved when the permit is granted. It will likely take six months to complete this process; we cannot sign contracts until that is done.

In the meantime, the work of planning, firming up costs, and securing financing will continue. Our Endowment Committee has offered to provide a long-term loan of up to \$100,000. We are also close to an agreement for a 30-year mortgage loan from the Puget Sound Business Lending

Group (PSBLG).

PSBLG has also asked me to sharpen the estimate of our need for short-term loans --loans to cover the time between the date construction is finished and the date the last of the pledged money is paid in 2019. We have three members who have offered to make these 1 percent loans, but we still could use more. Please contact me ASAP if this is something you can consider. PSBLG is willing to fill whatever gap we end up with, but at a higher cost to us.

Some people have wondered whether they should wait to pay their pledges until the final approval by the congregation. There is no need to wait; we have received about \$100,000 in pledges already, and are depositing them in a risk-free, interest-bearing account. And the more we can show we have to a lender, the better our terms will be.

Paul Borrmann

VP- Finance

Board Meeting Highlights May, 2016

In attendance: Adam Griffith, Rev. Kate Landis, Juel Erickson, Amanda Ray, Judi Kalitzki, Paul Borrmann, Alison Lilly

Absent: Carolyn Threadgill

Opening: Call to Order--Judi Kalitzki presiding

Approvals: Approval of April minutes: Minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business

Loan from Endowment Committee: The Endowment Committee voted unanimously to allow SUUC to borrow \$100,000 from the Endowment Fund to go towards the new building. In order to allow the Endowment Committee to move money, the Board unanimously passed the following resolution:

To authorize Laurie Radin and Robert L. Beekman to act as authorized signatories and representatives for the Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church's SEE fund account with Vanguard Mutual Funds.

Building Committee Report: The city of Shoreline did not grant us a parking variance, saying that we will need a conditional use permit instead since we are changing the number of parking spaces. Our consultant is optimistic that we won't have to have the number of parking spaces normally required for our size of building. The process will take time, however, probably between 3 and 6 months.

Capital Campaign Report: We have not received enough member loans to construct the new building, so we have inquired into getting a commercial loan. Currently we could borrow money from Verity credit union at 4.5%, but the exact number would lock in when we commit to the loan.

Congregational Meeting: The Board went over all the details for the May Congregational meeting, assigning roles and arranging for finger food and child care.

Roles: Alison Lilly will serve as liaison to the Rental Committee.

Prepared by Adam Griffith

Side by Side—a Column from Mental Health Ministry

Periodically, I visit a patient with delirium. It's one thing to have an onset of mental illness that causes one to have a change in mental status or to progressively lose one's cognitive abilities as in dementia. It is quite another to wake up from hip surgery after a fall, for example, and to suddenly (or intermittently) have a change in one's mental status. Delirium is a more or less temporary acute cognitive failure or brain dysfunction with long term serious consequences. The longer someone struggles with it, the greater the risk of death, so it's dangerous. Having it can lengthen one's stay in the hospital, so it is expensive. While there are certain risk factors for delirium, like age (over 70), or taking certain medications, there are also, I was glad to learn, interventions families and friends can offer that can really help a person struggling with delirium.



A person with delirium is a person who has lost his or her anchors in this life. Think of all the ways we remain tethered to our passions and our relationships, things that make life worth living. These are some of the ideas that came to me:

- we can see one another (making sure we or our loved one has his or her glasses will assist their engagement),
- we can hear one another (it's easy to tune out of life if we lose our ability, even temporarily, to hear),
- we can get around (this is why the physical therapy people are getting you up right after your surgery. Even sitting in a chair is better than laying in a bed; moving=life),
- we need sleep (don't visit too long, set limits with staff, make this a priority; sleep=healing). And this one is most important to me,
- having a community of people who love us keeps us connected to this life. Go visit, bring the newspaper, talk about current events and highlights from the past. Reorient the person if necessary, remind them where they are, what day it is, etc. All this can shorten delirium and get people connected once again.

I hope this tiny introduction peaks your interest and you'll want to learn more about delirium. Delirium matters.

If there is any way that we can be supportive of you and your family please reach out to us, the co-chairs of the Mental Health & Recovery Ministry team here at Shoreline UU, Chris Poole at 206-542-9271 or Rev. Barbara Cornell at uubcornell@gmail.com.

The support group for Family and Friends of those with a lived experience of mental illness for June will be held in the Conference Room at church on June 27, 2016 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. You are invited to join in!

Rev. Barbara Cornell

Community Announcements

New Members Welcome!

Have you joined SUUC as a member between June of 2015 and June of 2016? If so, the Welcome Team would like to honor you on Sunday, June 5th! We'll have special nametags for you as you come in the hall, recognition during the service, and decorated cakes in your honor during the coffee hour. We look forward to acknowledging you afresh and re-welcoming you to our community. Each of you makes our SUUC community even better! Thanks, and see you on the 5th!

Rick Wilson



Fun in the Sun!

With the lengthening days and warmer weather, the GreenSong CUUPS Pagans invite you to honor the sacred sun and our sense of sight with a simple ritual of light and laughter. Join us after the service **at noon on Sunday, June 5th, out in the orchard** (weather permitting, or in Chrysalis if it's rainy). We'll be learning more about the many solar deities that enlighten Paganism today, and deepening our relationship with the sun as source of light and life in this amazing solar system of ours! Please bring a candle or other sacred object that represents your relationship with the sun. (Contact alison.leigh.lilly@gmail.com for more info.)



SUUC Evening Book Group Meeting June 1 "*The owl of Minerva flies at dusk.*"

Between the World and Me, by Ta Nehisi Coates, will be the book under discussion at the Wednesday, June 1, meeting of the Evening Book Group (aka "The Owls of Minerva"). The meeting will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Church Conference Room. Bill King will lead our discussion of this best-seller, which has been compared to James Baldwin's 1963 essay *The Fire Next Time*.

The next book -- for our July 6 meeting -- will be *Neither Wolf nor Dog*, by Kent Nerburn.

Anyone is welcome to join our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month -- even if you haven't finished reading the book for the month! If more information is needed, contact Bob Beekman, 206-527-7340, or rlbeekman@gmail.com.



Could you play hymns for a service or two this summer?

Our beloved pianist, Lucy Wenger, is having foot surgery on June 27, and for six weeks will be unable to drive or to use the pedals on a piano. We need people who could play the hymns for one of those services during July and August. If you think you could play 2-3 hymns for the congregation to sing, plus "This Little Light of Mine," please contact Susan Storer Clark, songsue30@gmail.com. You don't need to provide all the music for the service. (If you would like to provide all the music for a service, please contact James Lucal, jameslucal91@icloud.com.)

Shoreline UU Men's Association

SUUMA (Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Men's Association) will meet for breakfast at the Wedgwood Broiler, 8230 35th Ave NE, on Saturday, June 18, 9-11 a.m. We will discuss the theme "Mystery" at this meeting. All SUUC men are welcome at our monthly breakfast meetings on the third Saturday of each month.

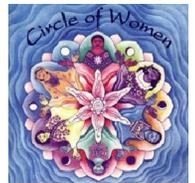
Hymn of the Month, June 2016

Each month the Music Committee chooses a hymn to introduce to the congregation, so that we may explore more of the rich musical heritage available to us. June's hymn, #18, "What Wondrous Love," is an old tune from The Southern Harmony and Musical Companion, compiled by "Singin' Billy" Walker and printed in 1835. It was one of the best of many books used to teach four-part harmony singing to people who didn't read conventional music. Much of the music and many of the harmonies were a century or more old even when the book was printed. Older versions of these harmonies have the melody line in the tenor, and our hymnal offers that alternate harmony. The tune is based on an old sea chanty about the pirate Captain Kidd, and shows a strong Celtic influence. These words were written by Connie Campbell Hart of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit, Michigan.

Susan Storer Clark

Women's Circle

Women of SUUC, come join us on Saturday, June 4, at 10 a.m. in Chrysalis for our monthly get together. Our topic will be women's energy. All are welcome, as are treat contributions. Any questions, contact Juel Erickson at 206-849-5177 or juelerickson@hotmail.com.



Save the Date!

A group is planning a Harry Potter Birthday Party SUUC fundraiser for Saturday July 30th. Our church campus will be transformed into Hogwarts Castle including decorations, sorting hat, wands, costumes, games and the Great Hall for the feast! 3-7 p.m. Contact Kate Beck if you'd like to help organize and/or volunteer the day of the event: katejbeck@gmail.com or 206-898-7100.





Social Action Ministry

Social Action Ministry Announcements

Social Action Ministry Meets Saturday, June 11

The SUUC Social Action Ministry will meet Saturday, June 11, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., in the Church Conference Room. Attend this meeting to get updated information and to join planning for volunteer opportunities, such as:

- Sno-King Meaningful Movies.
- Our summer social action project for our CRE kids.
- Outreach to the Idris Muslim mosque near Northgate.
- Possible replacement(s) for our monthly volunteer night at Food Lifeline (now moved to Georgetown) with volunteering at a local food bank or a monthly community dinner at Ronald United Methodist Church near the new Ronald Commons.

Check our [Social Action Ministry blog](#) a couple days before the meeting for the detailed agenda. Please contact SAM chairwoman Carolyn Wallace if you have any questions.



SRE-leveraged Donations by Shoreline Congregants Total Over \$3,000 for Four Selected Non-Profits

Nineteen individual cash gifts from Shoreline UUC congregants (some from couples) during April and May totaled \$1,475 for four non-profits selected as recipients of this spring's Social Responsibility Endowment donation campaign. These individual gifts also determined the pro-rated division of \$1,600 from the 2015 annual income from the church's Social Responsibility Endowment (SRE) Fund. This year's recipient non-profits were:

- Earth Justice
- International Rescue Committee
- Southern Poverty Law Center
- Washington Toxics Coalition

Thanks go to the generous donors this year--and to the Aldriches for establishing the SRE Fund over 13 years ago to encourage the Shoreline UUC to support social and environmental justice in the broader world beyond our own church and geographical region.

To subscribe to the twice-a-month e-mailings of the **SUUC Social Action "e-Blast,"** or just to get information about the Social Action blog and e-Blasts, contact Bob Beekman (rlbeekman@gmail.com).

June Calendar of Events

Wednesday, June 1

6:30-8 p.m. Potluck Supper, Sanctuary
7-8:30 p.m. Evening Book Group, Conference Room

Thursday, June 2

6-7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6-8:30 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Chrysalis
7-9 p.m. Board Meeting, Conference Room
7:45-9 p.m. Music Committee, Sanctuary

Friday, June 3

12-2 p.m. Appreciating Elderhood, Sanctuary

Saturday, June 4

10 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Women's Circle, Chrysalis

Sunday, June 5

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service and Children's Activities,
Sanctuary and Chrysalis
12-1 p.m. Family Potluck, Sanctuary
12-2 p.m. GreenSong Pagan Group, Chrysalis

Wednesday, June 8

6:30-8:30 p.m. Potluck, Sanctuary
7-8:30 p.m. Welcome Team, Conference Room

Thursday, June 9

6-7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6-8:30 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Chrysalis

Saturday, June 11

9:30-11:30 a.m. Social Action Meeting, Conference Room

Sunday, June 12

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service and Children's Activities,
Sanctuary and Chrysalis

Tuesday, June 14

1:30-3:30 p.m. Chalice Circle, Nursery
7-9 p.m. Tuesday Evening Chalice Circle, East Chrysalis

Wednesday, June 15

6:30-8 p.m. Weekly Potluck, Sanctuary
7-8:30 p.m. Worship Planning, Conference Room

Thursday, June 16

6-7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6-8 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Chrysalis

Friday, June 17

10-11:30 a.m. Charites Chalice Circle, Udd Residence
12-2 p.m. Appreciating Elderhood, Sanctuary

Saturday, June 18

9-11 a.m. Men's Group, Wedgwood Broiler

Sunday, June 19

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service and Children's Activities,
Sanctuary and Chrysalis

Monday, June 20

10 a.m. JULY SOUNDINGS Copy Deadline

Wednesday, June 22

6:30-8 p.m. Weekly Potluck, Sanctuary

Thursday, June 23

6-8 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Chrysalis

Sunday, June 26

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service and Children's Activities,
Sanctuary and Chrysalis
11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. GreenSong CUUPS Pagan Group
Check-in, Conference Room

Monday, June 27

6:30-8:30 p.m. Family and Friends Support Group, Conference Room

Wednesday, June 29

6:30-8 p.m. Weekly Potluck, Sanctuary

Thursday, June 30

6-8 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Chrysalis

June Sunday Volunteers

June 5:

Nancy Curtis and Marguerite Chin, Greeters
Shirley Beresford & Donald Patrick, Ushers
Kim and Bill Hayes, Baristas

June 12:

Andy Landis and Megan Watson, Greeters
Paul Borrmann & Barbara Stilson, Ushers
Kim and Bill Hayes, Baristas

June 19:

Earl Davis and Valerie Sammons, Greeters
Homer Henderson & Anne Martin, Ushers
Kristen and Bruce Hunt, Baristas
Marguerite Chin and Bob Beekman, Welcome Corner Hosts

June 26:

Carolyn Brenner and Sue Leisy, Greeters
Alison & Jeff Lilly, Ushers
Earl Davis, Barista
Marguerite Chin, Welcome Corner Host

Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church

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Soundings

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Submission deadline for **Soundings** is usually the 20th of the preceding month by 10 a.m. Include your name with submitted materials. Email articles to office@shorelineuu.org.