

Soundings

Newsletter of Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church



President's Message



Dear Friends,

This is a time of transition for us as we move from the ministry provided by Rev Amanda to the Interim Ministry of Rev Thomas. How can we thank Rev Amanda enough for stepping in as she did in January and helping us weather both Rev Kate's departure and then the Coronavirus? There are so many reasons, great and small, that I am thankful for her. As a small token of our appreciation, the congregation contributed money to buy gift certificates for Amanda at several Black-owned businesses (a bookstore, a stationary store and a bakery) and these were presented to her at the 7/19 "Au revoir" service. In case you'd like to continue to buy from them, Susan or Amanda can let you know the names and addresses of the businesses.

A hearty welcome to Rev Thomas Perchlik, our interim minister, who is starting on August 1. His first sermon will take place on Aug 9 and in fact he will preach each Sunday in August, except for Aug 2 (when our own Bridget Laughlin is scheduled to preach). We are so looking forward to getting to know Rev Thomas! The board named the transition team at our last meeting. This team will assist the Interim Minister in settling in and answering questions about "the what and who and how of the church" among other things (see the board minutes for more details). The members of the transition team are Kjell Anderson, Sarah Dilling, Brian Flaherty, Libby Gray, Jo Moore, Karen Thompson, and Peggy Williams Scott. This team and Thomas are planning some creative ways for us to have conversations with him and begin the process of getting to know one another in these crazy times.

We recently found out about a generous gift to the church! Julia Black, our beloved congregant who passed away a few months ago, has donated her baby grand piano to us for Threadgill Hall. We are so grateful to Julia and to her family for facilitating this gift. The piano is not large (5' by 5') and will fit just perfectly in the corner of Threadgill where the spinet piano is now located (which we'll need to sell or donate). The new piano is made by the Henry F. Miller company. It is 7 years old and in beautiful *(continues)*

condition. Here is a photo of the piano.



We are continuing to work with the Seabeck committee and the Seabeck Conference Center to make decisions about the church retreat for April 23-25 of 2021. The board will be discussing whether to go forward with the contract at our next meeting. The retreat would only happen if we were in a pandemic phase that allowed such a gathering and the retreat center would follow all public health guidelines.

Financially, the church is still afloat, despite a few difficulties. Many thanks to Paul Borrman who called congregants to find out if their 2020 pledge numbers were still valid. While some members needed to reduce their pledge, other members were able to increase their pledges so the total amount was approximately equal to what we had budgeted. We know these are uncertain times and if there is any change to your pledge, please

let the office know as soon as possible. As you probably know, we have lost most of our rental income due to the pandemic, but our PPP loan (part of the CARES act passed by Congress) is almost equal to the amount lost from rental income. And this loan will become a grant once we file the paperwork. We are wondering what to do about fundraising. Our live auction was expected to contribute \$13,000 this year to our operating budget and we don't expect to be able to hold it. The fundraising committee is working on ideas and we will certainly let you know.

The roof project is coming along quite well. We have activated several member loans, and we will be able to give you the details of how much we spent on the project probably in the next Soundings. But we are well within our budget and the structural repairs (which were the biggest unknown) cost less than half of what we'd budgeted as a worst case scenario. As I write this in mid-July, we have finished all the structural repairs, having replaced or repaired 16 of the structural triangles. Jennifer continues to work on the wiring where it has been disturbed by the construction. The ice and water shield is being installed over the exterior sheeting and the shingles will be installed beginning the week of 7/20. We are getting our bids finalized for repairing the interior sheetrock and finally painting. So, it really looks like this project will be finished in August. Again, thank you to Ed Buzzell, Cal Spangler, and Jennifer Klock who are at the church almost daily working on this project. Here is a recent photo (thanks to Kristen Hunt who was on a ladder).



There are many people to thank this month. Thanks to all who worked on the Reader's Theater production for our service on July 12, which included Lew Witham (the playwright), Marcus Volke, Joyce Allison, Matt McGee, Dan Dilling and Krista Tenney. The play was very thought-provoking and I know it was a lot of work to produce! Thanks to the

original Stream Team: Eric Scott, Ben Tompkins, and Sarah Dilling, who have worked tirelessly since March to create virtual worship services during the pandemic. Our Sunday services have been well-attended, with 80-90 households typically logged on each week and this speaks to both the quality of the content (thanks to the Worship Planning committee, our Minister, our guest speakers and our musicians) and the technical expertise of our Stream Team. The Stream Team is now welcoming some new team members to join them, including Autumn Gray Eakin, Susan Storer-Clark, Rich Clark, Krista Tenney, Carrie Cameron, Jennifer Etzer, and Michelle Martin and we thank them for their willingness to take on this responsibility. Thanks to the team who brought in wood chips for our play area: Rick Wilson, Kristen and Bruce Hunt, and David Duke. The play area is almost covered now, but we still need more wood chips if anyone can volunteer to help (speak to Rick, Kristen, or Bruce). Thanks to all who have helped with weeding and yard work, including Laura Westbrook, Tori Manzer, Bernice and Bernie Ege-Zavala, Rick Wilson, Bruce and Kristen Hunt and Ed Buzzell. I apologize if I've missed anyone.



Our next board meeting will take place on Thursday, August 6 at 7:00. The link will be

posted on the church web page and congregants are welcome to zoom in as observers.

So much is happening! Please stay in touch with us. Email your questions and comments for the board to Catherine (Catherine_crain@comcast.net) Susan, (songsue30@gmail.com) or any board member.

Moving forward together,

Catherine Crain
Co-President, SUUC Board of Trustees

From our Director of Religious Exploration

Greetings everyone. If there's one thing I've been hearing more than anything else from parents right now it's STRESS ABOUT SCHOOL. What will it look like in September? Will it change once it's set? How will work schedules and school schedules conflict? What about child-care? There's a huge amount of uncertainty which has been hanging like a dark cloud over many folks at SUUC and outside of it.



While I don't have any magic bullet to deal with this, at the first parent happy hour eight parents put their heads together around what has helped them through this situation and other times of great uncertainty. One of the most common things that came up was simply being able to share about what is going on for you with a group of caring people — it's little surprise then, that folks decided we should make the parent happy hour an every-other-week affair; I look forward to seeing the sharing, connection, and learning that will surely take place at these! We will have our Wednesday afternoon parent gatherings still, though we will be taking these down to every other week for the moment so as not to compete with the happy hours. I hope you can make it out to one or more of these gatherings in the coming weeks!

For my part, it's been really daunting trying to think about how to approach RE classes in the fall when school starts again — with so many variables in play, I feel like I'm at a loss

(continues)

for how to truly get prepared for what will come other than to ask any of you folks that feel you have some time and energy to give to the children and youth of SUUC in the coming year to please get in touch with me and let me know. We can figure out a way for you

to be involved in this important ministry in the not-too-distant future; maybe by hanging out for a zoom kids or youth session, maybe by coming up with a list of good stories to relate to the themes we want to touch on, maybe sharing a video about how you make cookies for kids to watch and do along with you at home. Or maybe something else — the point is, get in touch!

Lastly, in recent conversation that featured a new member of the church with a child, we discussed how difficult it is to make new connections online, for both children and adults. I've heard from a lot of families for whom zoom classes are pretty difficult sell for their kids in general. In order to just get kids back in the same (virtual) room as each other, we decided it would be fun to have a family game night online! We'll be doing this on Friday, August 7 from 6-8pm. If you can go, I really encourage you to talk with your kid or youth about who they'd like to see there, then reach out to them and invite them! Invites from me are a dime a dozen these days, but hearing from another kid that wants to see *you specifically* is much more meaningful to kids. And adults, too! =)

Events for children, youth, and families in August

K-5th Zoom sessions — every Monday at 1pm (except for August 3)

Youth Group sessions — every other Sunday at 6pm (August 2, 16, and 30)

Evening parent happy hour — every other Thursday at 8pm (August 13 and 27)

Afternoon parent happy hour — every other Wednesday at 4pm (August 5 and 19)

Family Game Night — Friday, August 14, 6-8pm

RE discussion — Sunday, August 16 at noon

SUUC Minecraft gathering for older elementary and middle school — *coming soon!*

Take care, stay safe, and stay sane,

***Chris Pollina,
Director of Religious Exploration for Children and Youth***

Community News

SUUC EVENING BOOK GROUP HOLDS MONTHLY BOOK DISCUSSION ON AUGUST 5 "The owl of Minerva flies at dusk."



The Evening Book Group (aka "The Owls of Minerva") will meet on Wednesday, August 5, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. by Zoom video conference. The book to be discussed is the novel Old Baggage by Lissa Evans. Judi Kalitizki will facilitate the discussion of this historical novel about British suffragettes. The novel is about what is left for you as an activist after you've won -- sort of.

We will send out the information about how to log into and use Zoom in our reminder e-mail the weekend before the meeting (the monthly e-mail that includes a non-required poetry selection from the Poetry Evangelist). If you have not been receiving these reminder e-mails, but would like to participate in this book discussion, please contact Bob, [\(206\) 527-7340](tel:2065277340), rlbeekman@gmail.com.

To get you started reading our next book selection, on September 2 we'll be discussing Jeffrey Toobin's non-fiction account of Patty Hearst's kidnapping by the Symbionese Liberation Army and its aftermath. Here's a stunning factoid: It was 45 years ago already, folks!

What's in a Name?

For quite a while now, some members of our congregation, including me, have been uncomfortable with part of our name, specifically the word "church". Many in our Unitarian Universalist denomination have made a change in their name from *Church* to *Congregation*, including some local groups such as Edmonds UUC and Westside (and my sister's congregation in Arizona). Nationally, almost half of our roughly 1000 congregations still use the name Church. (Others include Fellowship, Congregation, Society, Parish, Community, etc.) In the Pacific Northwest District, of 56 groups, only 16 use the word church, 10 use congregation, 27 use the word Fellowship (I know most people think Fellowships are small but several of these have more than 300 members), 2 use Community, and two just say "UUs of ____". Does our name help to define who we are? The dictionary defines *church* as "a building for public and especially Christian worship" and *congregation* as "an assembly of persons met for worship and religious instruction or a religious community".

Currently because we cannot use our building, we have created an online congregation or community. Often a name change indicates a change in relationship (such as when one spouse takes another's name) or a renewed commitment. Is this a time when SUUC should be considering a name change? We are embarking on a revision of By-Laws and we are entering into a period of reflection on who we are as a congregation with the help of an Interim Minister. Changing our "C" from church to congregation requires a full and open discussion with our members, and eventually a vote of the congregation. Should we start this discussion? Is there interest?

Please respond with your comments to jottingjo@gmail.com. *Jo Moore*

All women of SUUC; please join in the women's group for Sept on Sept 5 from 10:00 am to 12:00 am.

The topic for September is "Enhancing Self Care During the Winter of Sheltering In." How we meet our emotional and physical needs during the winter.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/744387000>

Decentering Whiteness Discussion Group - August 16

Please join us for this one-time meeting to discuss "Decentering Whiteness", written by Jeff Hitchcock and Charley Flint (2015 edition). The article and some discussion questions will be provided in advance. The discussion will take place on August 16 at 4:30 pm via Zoom. Please contact treela by email (treela.mckamey@gmail.com) to RSVP and receive additional details.

Link to article: <https://www.euroamerican.org/public/decenteringwhiteness.pdf>

This may be a great opportunity for you to join in a conversation about anti-racism work if you haven't been able to commit to the more formal discussion group. I hope to see more of you there!

FOOT/BIKE BRIDGE PROJECT

The City of Shoreline has approved a foot/bike path and bridge from 1st Av NE to the new light rail station at 148th St. NE. They have raised some but not all of the funding for building this path through the north end of our parking lot and with the Iglesias church (to the north of our church). Honing the design and compensation for use of our property will be coming up as issues as they start building soon.

Consequently, the Footpath Project Task Group started meeting on Sunday, July 19

to get the process rolling. Our goal is to make sure everyone who wants to know about this project and its impact on our church will have an opportunity to learn more about it and ask questions before the Task Group meets with the City of Shoreline sometime this Fall.

We are scheduling 3 meetings for the Congregation to ask questions and raise issues—one is on Sunday, August 16 at the Board Coffee Hour at noon after church. The other meetings will be scheduled for Sunday, September 13 at the Board Coffee Hour at noon after church and Tuesday, September 22 at 7 pm on zoom (the zoom prompts will be available on the SUUC website shorelineuu.org).

If you would like to read more about what the City has done so far, here is the website article about the project: <https://www.shorelinewa.gov/government/projects-initiatives/148th-street-pedestrian-bicycle-bridge>

If you have questions you'd like to ask to be answered before the meetings, feel free to contact any of the Task Group members: Laura Banks laurabanks1@comcast.net, Catherine Crain Catherine_crain@comcast.net, Ryan Dunne ryanseamusdunne@gmail.com, Justin Martin jm.justin@gmail.com, and Krista Tenney tenney@earthlink.net



Join us for the first ever SUUC Virtual Auction

Saturday, October 17, 2020 8pm – 9pm

The Plan.

As many of you know, we had to postpone our dinner and auction planned for last April, but we have decided to try our hand at having a virtual auction on October 17th from 8 PM until 9 PM. We haven't worked out all the technological details, but you will be able to log in from home and bid on your favorite offerings. If you have ideas and/or skills for taking the auction online, please contact the team.

Donations: What we need from you.

A willingness to try something new and help us fundraise for the expected revenue from the in-person event. The first step in supporting our community is for you to come up with an offering for the auction that can be completed by the end of February 2021.

This is the time of Covid, so please keep this in mind when coming up with your donation. For example, in times past one might have offered a dinner for six on the deck, right? Well, now what might be offered is a dinner for six DELIVERED to the purchaser. Make sense?

Some ideas for donations.

Online game night

Dinners for delivery for two/four/six;

Cookie of the month or every other month, bottle of wine twice a year, homemade jam, pie or cake once or ongoing; themed gift baskets for the holidays.

Accept donations on behalf of the church for your run, walk, or bike-a-thon

Online subject tutoring for two/five hours/ten hours for children or adults

Online storytime

Live-streamed tour of your place of business, your garden with plant identification, tour of an exciting place of beauty

A Zoom tutorial on a subject of purchaser's choosing or your own offering (how to establish password protector software; how to arrange flowers in the Japanese style; how to cook a delicious dish)

Knit something for someone; offer two hours of your masked time to clean a garage; two hours of cleaning up for the holidays/ hanging lights?!

Gardening help, Fall cleanup?

Send your donation idea with suggested price and a description.

Let us know what you would like to donate or what you wish someone would donate for you to bid on (maybe, we can make it happen). Please help your church to continue to provide for all of our staff, services and causes. We can get through this difficult time together.

Please email your offerings to Dana Doerksen at gasbarri@comcast.net. Please include your name, your contact information, your auction offering, a description, the minimum price? The price you think we should charge? and if you can, a photo.

Please send any comments or questions to the whole team: Rick Wilson rickwilson7863@msn.com; Dana Doerksen gasbarri@comcast.net; Laura Banks laura-banks1@comcast.net; Sarah Dilling sarahd@gmail.com; or Jennifer Etwiler jetz-ter@gmail.com

Shoreline UU Church Board Meeting Minutes for June 3, 2020

Orientation and Executive Session 6:00 pm

Business Meeting 7:00 pm

Attendance: Susan Storer Clark, Catherine Crain, Dana Doerksen, Marley Banker, Treela McKamey, Brian Flaherty, Rev Amanda Aikman

Visitors: Rick Zander, Jo Moore

Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter:

The board of trustees voted unanimously to approve the Letter of Agreement for Rev Thomas Perchlik to be our Interim Minister for a 2 year term beginning August 1, 2020.

Business Meeting:

1. Opening words (Rev. Amanda)

2. Election of officers

Catherine Crain & Susan Storer Clark Co-Presidents

Dana Doerksen Vice President

Bruce Hunt Vice President-Finance

Marley Banker Secretary

Motion put forwarded, seconded. Motion passes and officers elected

3. Approval of minutes from May 5 and May 12

May 12th minutes approved

May 5th minutes approved

4. Committee liaisons

Board members were assigned to be liaisons to SUUC committees as follows:

Addictions/Recovery Ministry, chair Rev Barbara Cornell	Marley
Aesthetics, chairs Peggy Scott & Krista Tenney	Bruce?
Building and Grounds , chair Bruce Hunt	Bruce
Congregational Life, chair Paul Borrmann	Susan
Endowment, chairs Terry Zimmerman / Rick Zander	Bruce
Fundraising, chair Rick Wilson?	Dana
Comm on Ministry, chair Stephanie Metting	Catherine
Music Ministry, chair Carolyn Wallace	Treela
Care Team, chairs Judi K., Laura M., Carolyn T., Shelley A.	Brian
Personnel, chair Stephanie Metting or Libby G.	Catherine
Religious Exploration Ministry, Chris Pollina	Dana
Rentals, chair Rick Wilson	Marley
Social Action Ministry, chair Krista Tenney	Marley
Finance /Stewardship, chair Bruce Hunt/Earl Davis	Bruce
Welcome Team, chair Rick Wilson	Brian
Worship Planning, chair Dianne Carreri	Susan

5. Financial report (VP/ Finance)

Income/Expense—Bruce presented the financials dated June 1. Operating fund pledges are on track for this year. We are behind on new pledges. Is this something the Welcome Committee can explore? Rentals are behind a couple of months due to closures; this will continue to be a shortfall. Auction hasn't happened as planned so we are missing that money. Risk/Benefit play was a great fundraiser, although Rev Amanda has not received her payment from Brown Paper Tickets. This year's expenses for interim minister will be taken from the Minister line item; this fund has enough funds to also pay for Rev.

Amanda's remaining time. We received the PPP loan in the amount of \$46,000 and it must be spent by the end of June. It was booked as income incorrectly in the financials.

Action item (Bruce): PPP loan will be categorized as a debt going forward (and removed from Miscellaneous 7910 line item)

6. PPP Loans, paying Lucy, Monica & Carly; hiring Wil for the summer.

Money from PPP will be used to pay staff until the end of June.

Wil offered to work this summer, though he doesn't normally work July and August, in order to provide music for 2 services per month. While the Board is grateful for his offer to continue to work through the summer, Wil is not approved to work in July or August. However, the Finance committee will do an analysis to determine if there is money from PPP to pay Wil and Lucy extra to pre-record music through the end of June that can then be used in future summer services.

Motion to pay Wil and Lucy extra in June to pre-record music for summer services if PPP funds are confirmed. Seconded. Motion passes.

Action item: Bruce will do analysis of PPP loan to make sure funds are adequate. Susan will let Lucy know motion passed and what results of PPP analysis are; Catherine will let Wil know.

Please see minutes from the special Board meeting on 6/13/20 that resolves this issue.

7. Chalice Lighters, Pacific Northwest District. Approval of Nick Aldrich as SUUC representative.

[\(Information on Chalice Lighters\)](#)

This program provides grants for UU congregations. SUUC was a participant in this program in the past. Nick Aldrich has offered to be the SUUC representative and thus renew our church's participation. It is a voluntary choice on the part of members whether to donate.

Motion to approve Nick Aldrich as our rep to Chalice Lighters for a year. Seconded. Motion passes.

8. Update on ongoing projects and task forces

- a. Roof replacement (Catherine) Roof may be in worse shape than we thought; roofer says repair is beyond his scope and we need to hire carpenters before he can re-roof. As we learn more about the damage, we will have a better idea of the scope of repair needed and potential costs. It would be prudent to begin to explore options for covering costs if the price exceeds the \$175k that the congregation approved for roof repair at May congregational meeting.
- b. COVID-19 Task Force (Susan) Task force is thinking about how to go to different phases of worship as things begin to open up. Also how to address requests from outside groups to use our building (non-rentals). Responses to these requests need to be balanced with the problems presented by COVID and with roof construction.
- c. Bylaws Task Force (Susan) Task force is composed of Susan Storer-Clark Chris Doerksen, Bob Beekman, and Eliza Sutton. State law has changed so that the description of our type of corporation has changed. Chris has made the appropriate changes in our bylaws to address these changes. Goal of the task force is to have proposed changes to bylaws done by September, to be voted on at the December congregational meeting. Question about timeline—maybe wait for the interim minister to help facilitate part of the bylaw discussion, in particular the parts about ministerial authority. It was suggested that revisions be divided into phases, some sections moving ahead as planned, others being delayed to allow for interim minister's input. Susan will bring a revised timeline back to the task force that will reflect more time for discussion with the interim minister.

Action Item: Susan will develop a revised timeline with the bylaws task force.

- d. 148th Street Non-Motorized Bridge Task Force (Catherine) Ryan Dunne & Catherine comprise the task force so far but are looking to add some more members. More to report at a later time.
- e. Staff evaluations (Catherine) Proceeding as planned. Brandon Hunter's and Chris Pollina's are done. Wil Sederholm's is coming up.

For future meetings – Revisions to Building Security Plan, Bylaw revisions and possible name change, joys and sorrows evaluation, Policy and/or Bylaw changes for future Congregational meeting.

Thank yous - will be emailed separately

Next Meetings: July 6th, 7:00 on Zoom; August 8th Board retreat. We'll need to schedule an August meeting not on a Monday so Rev Thomas can attend.

Special Meeting 6/13/20 via Zoom

Attending: Susan Storer Clark, Catherine Crain, Treela McKamey, Dana Doerksen, Brian Flaherty, Marley Banker

Absent: Bruce Hunt

The Board met to resolve the question regarding PPP funds that was raised at the 6/3/20 Board meeting.

Motion for June 13, 2020 special meeting.

The Board wishes to amend the action in its meeting of June 3, in response to congressional changes in the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). SUUC will pay Lucy Wenger and Wil Sederholm as budgeted for 2020, in the budget approved by the congregation in December 2019. That is, Lucy will be paid year round for playing for worship services. Wil will work according to his Letter of Agreement, taking time off between June 30 and mid-August.

Motion seconded, passed with one abstention.



August Worship Services

Services will continue to be held online only every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

We will most likely be holding all of these services on Zoom. The easiest and quickest way to link yourself into the service is to go to the home page of our website at www.shorelineuu.org, scroll down to “Recurring Services and Events” and then click the link that says “Join Zoom Meeting” directly below the service title. If you have any problems connecting, contact the office.

office@shorelineuu.org

If we do switch to Facebook Live, the stream will still be publicly viewable (even if you don't have a Facebook account) on our [homepage](#).

We hope we will all be able to meet in person again soon, but we are grateful to be able to gather online while we are not able to gather in person!

Hope to see you “there”!

Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church

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2020 Board of Trustees:

Catherine Crain & Susan Storer Clark, Co-Presidents; Bruce Hunt, VP-Finance;
Brian Flaherty, Dana Doerksen; Marley Banker; Treela McKamey

2020 Staff

Rev. Amanda Aikman, Minister	(W) 206-363-7994 minister@shorelineuu.org
Rev. April Frazier, Affiliated Community Minister	(C) 206-707-2052 aprilarsonfrazier@gmail.com
Rev. Barbara Cornell, Affiliated Community Minister	(C) 206-510-5690 uubcornell@gmail.com
Wil Sederholm, Choir Director	(C) 206 371-7488 wilholm@msn.com
Chris Pollina, Director of Religious Exploration	(C) 206-240-5500 shorelinedre@gmail.com
Brandon Hunter, Church Administrator	(W) 206-363-7994 office@shorelineuu.org
Amparo Correa, Custodian	
Lucy Wenger, Pianist	
Carly Davis, Nursery Attendant	
Monica Barroga, Nursery Attendant	

Calendar available online at <http://www.shorelineuu.org/calendar.html>