

Soundings

Newsletter of Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church



JULY 2015

We are experimenting this month with an alternate method of sharing Soundings; please send any comments to office@shorelineuu.org

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July Worship Services

All services at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 5: "The Interconnected Web Cubed," pulpit guest **Jolinda Stephens**

Jolinda is the coordinator for UU Voices for Justice and is its registered lobbyist in Olympia.

Sunday, July 12: "We Will Not Pass By"

Unitarian-Universalists have historically been active in causes for social justice, human rights and the environment. Do we do this as religious people? Should we? The Social Action Ministry Team will explore the many ways we put our values into action and why. Special music will be provided by Joyce Allison and Shirley Beresford. Our Plate Share will be for the United We Stand tent encampment.



Sunday, July 19: "Gathered in Hope" Rev. Kate Landis

Sunday, July 26: "A Purposeful People" Rev. Kate Landis

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Minister's Message

Hello dear ones,

Today I write with a heavy heart as I have just learned about the murders in Charleston at the Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church. A historically significant church, Emmanuel was founded by an African-American preacher dedicated to making a church home for slaves. Active in the abolitionist movement and just as justice-focused today, the church is a symbol of black people refusing to be second class citizens in South Carolina, a state that still flies the confederate flag.



Why does this shooting matter? Yes, it is certainly a tragedy when nine people are shot and killed, people gathered to worship together. It is a tragedy when a young girl has to play dead to survive a brutal attack. But murders occur in our country every day, in huge metropolises and small towns. Why is this tragedy capturing so much of the public's attention?

In every social movement there is a point at which the oppressed have made so much progress that the oppressor feels threatened and retaliates. This happened after President Obama was elected, when there was an immediate surge of race-related hate crimes. Today, as the Black Lives Matter movement becomes main stream, the backlash has begun. People such as the Charleston gunman, who see the oppressed striving for justice, are eager to push them back down.

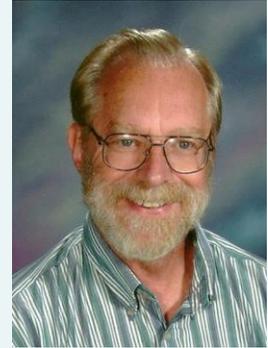
In 1963 the 16th Street Church in Birmingham, Alabama, was bombed by four white supremacists. Four little girls were killed that day. Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice was a few blocks away that morning, at her father's church. She wrote "That bomb took the lives of four young girls, including my friend and playmate [Carol] Denise McNair. The crime was calculated, not random. It was meant to suck the hope out of young lives, bury their aspirations, and ensure that old fears would be propelled forward into the next generation." The crime in Charleston had a similar aim, to bury the hopes of a generation insisting on just treatment by police officers and more opportunities for all people of color.

The 16th Street Church bombing galvanized a new breed of activists in this nation. White stay-at-home moms who didn't think the civil rights movement applied to them were horrified into action by the deaths of innocent children. African-Americans who were staying out of the movement for their own safety were emboldened by the senseless violence. Northerners who thought the movement was a southern thing realized that the death of children in a church made this situation bigger than geography, that racism pervaded the Mason-Dixon line.

My fellow spiritual companions on this journey of faith, it is time for the tragedy in Charleston to galvanize us, to push us out of our comfort zone, to insist that Black Lives Matter. This violence is not a southern thing, an east-coast event that in our pride we wish to deny could happen here. It is happening here, in the acts of inhumanity African-Americans face in Puget Sound. It is happening here in the gentrification of neighborhoods. It is happening here in the sub-par public schools where we send our city's African-American children to learn. It is happening here, even while we are undergoing a federal investigation of our police department's practices of excessive force and biased arrests. It's happening here, to our kids, to our neighbors, to our family members. Cry over the Charleston massacre, but when your tears have dried, join me in demanding a Puget Sound, a nation, that recognizes the Black Lives Matter. Talk to the people in your world about race, google "white privilege," and read the blog Colorlines. Learn how you can be an ally in the movement toward racial equality. We will not allow another generation of black children to grow up hopeless.

With affection, your minister, Kate

Money Talks--July Host a House Meeting!



Yes, the Stewardship Committee is again planning to organize a series of house meetings this fall to get to know each other better and to discuss how we can meet both our needs for our operating programs AND for a new building that will provide educational and gathering space.

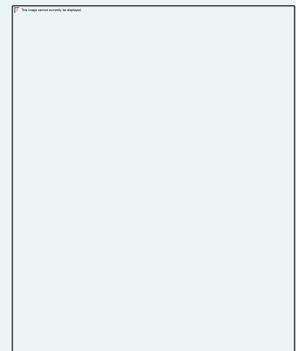
These meetings, usually involving six to eight SUUC members, have attracted over 100 members each of the past two years, and we are aiming to get all 150 of our current members to attend this fall. To do this, we will need at least 20 members to agree to host one 90-minute gathering sometime between mid-September and mid-to-late October. The Committee will provide the agenda and the facilitators for the gathering; we ask you only to provide some simple snacks and non-alcoholic drinks. I know many of you who have hosted one of these will want to do so again, but I'm sure others of you would enjoy welcoming a few fellow congregants into your home.

These gatherings are an especially effective way for newer members to get to know some of the wonderful people who gather here! Let me know via email (or via an elbow bump at church) if you would like to be a host this fall!

Paul Borrmann, VP-Finance

Religious Exploration

Happy summer to you all! As I write this, the RE Big Picture Team has just finished up the work we set out to accomplish a few months ago, namely, to come up with a vision and mission statement for our children's RE program. In order to ensure that this document doesn't become filed away and forgotten, as is the fate with so many mission statements, we've made a set of specific goals for the children of each grade group so that our mission will in fact guide what we do in our church and we can have some method of evaluating how we are doing in terms of achieving our religious exploration goals for our church's children. The process involved a lot of reflection on big questions about the nature of bringing children up in our faith, such as:



- "How much UU history is it important for children to know?"
- "How deep do we go in teaching the six sources?"
- "If many adults in the church don't know about an aspect of our faith, should children be expected to? Why?"

Working through these questions was not always easy, but it felt very meaningful for us to step back to grapple with these things. While we've finished our work too recently for me to present it to you all, I look forward to sharing it with you soon. More than I look forward to sharing it with you, I look forward to seeing how it changes and improves the way we do religious exploration with children and youth in our church! **Thanks to Adam**

Griffith, Teresa Bain, Laura Banks, Rick Wilson, Kim Hayes, and Kristina Selsset for the many hours and energy they put toward this project!

As you may know by now, the children will be making a meal for the United We Stand Tent City meal program on third Sundays during the summer. The June date was a success with children from grades Kindergarten to 8th working together to make 50 sandwiches which members of the Social Action Ministry took over to the encampment later that day. The next two dates for this project are July 19 and August 16 - hope many of your children can help out on these days!

Finally, thanks for making the June 7 Bridging and Teacher Appreciation ceremony great. That Sunday had the distinction of being the most kids we've ever had a on a Sunday at SUUC - **36!** It was also truly magical to have several folks *approach me* about teaching RE in the hours and days after this service rather than having it be the other way around! I love to see members of our community, both new and old, stepping up to do this fun and important work and appreciate very much that our church is unique in how much people embrace spending time with the children and youth. Thank you all, and I hope you're having a great summer! I will be tough to get in contact with in the latter half of July as I'll be getting married - if you'd like to talk to get a quick response from me about anything, please try to get in touch with me before July 11 - I can make no guarantees after that! Take care,

Chris Pollina, shorelinedre@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 26 - Family Potluck, noon-2 p.m. at Twin Ponds Community Garden

Over the summer we'll be moving our monthly potlucks to Twin Ponds Community Garden - the kids will already be helping out in the gardens during their RE class time so simply migrate on over to Twin Ponds Community Garden (just a quarter mile north on 1st Ave NE) after church with a dish to share and anything else you'd like for the day. There's also opportunities to help out more if you are so inclined - someone from the garden will be on hand to let you know what needs doing.

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Board Meeting Minutes--June

June 17th, 2015 6-8 p.m. in the SUUC Sanctuary; prepared by Adam Griffith

In Attendance

Paul Borrmann, Adam Griffith, Rev. Kate Landis, Alison Lilly, Juel Erikson, Amanda Ray, Karen Thompson, Carolyn Threadgill

Opening

Call to Order - Karen Thompson presiding.

New Business

Approval of SUUC May Board meeting minutes: Board unanimously approved.

Introduction of new Board Members: The returning board members were excited to welcome the newly elected board members to the team. They bring with them great energy and we as pleased to have them with us!

Assigning of Board positions: Karen Thompson agreed to remain president of the board. Paul Borrmann agreed to remain in his post as treasurer, and Adam Griffith agreed to continue as Secretary. Carolyn Threadgill offered to serve as Vice President. These appointments were approved unanimously.

Assigning of Liaison tasks: Juel Erikson will be the board Liaison to the Welcome Team. Amanda Ray will

be Liaison to the Music Committee and Religious Education. Adam Griffith will be Liaison to the Building and Grounds Committee. Karen Thomson will liaison with the Committee on Ministry and the Personnel Committee. Paul Borrmann will be Liaison to the Endowment Committee. Carolyn Threadgill will be Liaison to the Social Action Committee. Alison Lilly will be Liaison to the Nominating Committee and the Worship Planning Committee.

Leadership Retreat: The Board decided on the date of September 19th to have the Annual Board Leadership Retreat, assuming that a retreat leader will be available on that date.

Report from the Taskforce on Worship and Growth: This important taskforce is in the early stages of its work, and they will look at the issues of crowding in our growing congregation. Parking is becoming an issue, and an effort will be made to reach a deal with the church to the north of us, which holds worship on Saturdays. Input from other groups will be actively sought after, and the congregation will be encouraged to sit close together to leave open seats for families that come late.

Barbara Cornell: Work continues on creating a covenant with Barbara Cornell to outline her affiliation with SUUC, with plans to wrap it up in the next few months.

Rev. Kate's Compensation: The Board unanimously passed a motion supporting the Personnel Committee's desire to look over Kate's compensation package.

Pagan Interest Group: The Pagan Interest group approached the Board for support in becoming a member of CUUPS (Covenant of UU Pagans). Chris Doerksen ran through the pros and cons of the move, and Board voted unanimously to support and welcome the group to join CUUPS.

50th Anniversary is coming: Next year will be SUUC's 50th anniversary. A task force is being put together to create a celebration for this happy occasion.

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Social Action Ministry

SUUC Social Action Ministry Announcements

Social Action Ministry Monthly Meeting, Saturday, July 11

Interested SUUC congregants are invited to the Social Action Ministry meeting on Saturday morning, July 11, (second Saturday of the month), 9:30 a.m., in the Church Conference Room. Topics will include our Social Action Sunday worship service on the following day (Sunday, July 12), the showing of the film "Inequality for All" that evening by our Sno-King Meaningful Movies partnership with the Edmonds church, social justice activities and discussions at the UUA General Assembly in Portland the previous month, a mid-point report on our summer Social Action project with our CRE kids, as well as progress reports on other planned projects and activities. Lots of exciting stuff! Check the Social Action blog (now hosted on the Northwest UU Justice Network site <http://www.nwuujn.org/topics/view/5548de810cf2ab913fd7e70b/>) a couple days before the meeting for an updated agenda. Or subscribe to the SUUC Social Action twice-a-month e-Blast e-mailing by contacting Bob Beekman (rbeekman@gmail.com).

Robert Reich's "Inequality for All" at Sno-King Meaningful

Movies, July 11

A humorous and enlightening exposé of the widening economic gap in America since the 1970s by former U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich. Saturday, July 11, 7 p.m., at Edmonds UU Church, 8109 224th St. SW, Edmonds, WA 98026. Free admission (donations welcome). Discussion following the film with Ken Dammand of Fix Democracy First (formerly Washington Public Campaigns).



See the Social Action Ministry blog for further information

(<http://www.nwuujn.org/view/news/558224d80cf24b2df22cedbf/558228440cf24b2df22cedc2/?topic=5548de810cf2ab913fd7e70b>).

Sno-King Meaningful Movies are presented bi-monthly at the Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church, by a partnership of the Shoreline UU Church's Social Action Ministry, the Edmonds UU Church Peace & Justice Committee, and the Snohomish County Peace Action Committee.

SUUC Service Project at Food Lifeline: July 21



The Food Lifeline sign-up program is a major snafu as far as I am concerned (and Gabe, our project manager, feels also). They are going to get rid of it but until they do, please feel free to show up on Tuesday night without having signed in at Food Lifeline. You can sign up that night (and children will need a parental permission form signed).

Summer is a great time to bring your children to Food Lifeline (at or above the age of 6) because they don't have school the next day. We are done with the project by 8 p.m. or sooner, so there is plenty of time for young folks to get their sleep.

July Date: Tuesday July 21, 2015. The project begins promptly at 6 p.m. and ends at 8. (Please don't arrive after 6:05 because the doors lock and we won't be able to hear you knock.) Everyone welcome, please remember to wear closed-toe shoes.

Address: Food Lifeline is at 1702 NE 150th Street (near the former Fircrest School area). Turn east on NE 150th off 15th Avenue NE in Shoreline. Drive a short distance and watch for the driveway into the Food Lifeline parking lot and warehouse on the left. There's a small Food Lifeline sign to mark the turn.

Next month's date is August 18, 2015. We go every third Tuesday of the month and we would love to have YOU join us. Carpooling can be arranged.

Please sign up in the hall at the Social Action bulletin board or by contacting Laura "FoodBanks" (laurabanks1@comcast.net or 206-235-3611 by phone or by text).

Gathering Signatures for WA Initiative 735

Washington State Initiative 735 is a retry of last year's I-1329, which did not qualify for the ballot. It urges the WA State Legislature to support -- and Congress and the WA State Congressional delegation to enact -- an amendment to the U.S. Constitution stating that constitutional rights belong only to individuals and not corporations or associations; that spending money is not considered free speech under the First Amendment, that governments may regulate political contributions and expenditures, and that such contributions and expenditures must be disclosed to the public. Cheryl Whitcomb will be collecting signatures and recruiting other signature gatherers in the church entry hall after Sunday services. For more information, see Cheryl or go online to <http://www.wamend.org>.

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Community Announcements

SUUC Orientation Opportunity is Coming!

Hey - interested in finding out more about SUUC and Unitarian Universalism ---- and maybe joining our great, growing community? On Saturday, August 1, from 9 a.m. until noon, Rev. Kate will lead an orientation conversation and you are invited! Brunch will be served and we will have child care, if requested. Everyone is welcome and if you have questions or comments or want to reserve your spot, contact Rick Wilson at rickwilson7863@msn.com . Looking forward to seeing you there!

Let's Make Some Communal Art!

This summer when you see something that wakes you up, that hits you in a spiritual place, that is what you think of as holy, take a picture of it and send it to Laurie in the office! She will compile our photos of Sacred Stuff all summer, so send her a pic and, if you'd like, a brief description at office@shorelineuu.org. Let's inspire each other!



August Celebration

We will celebrate both the wedding of Rev. Kate and the wedding of Chris Pollina with an after-church reception in August. Watch for the announcements!



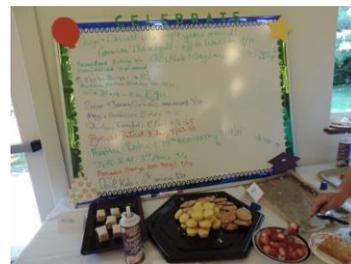
Fund Raising Success!!!

The SUUC Fundraising Committee is overjoyed to report that our "Events and Activities Auction" raised over \$9,600 this year - and our goal was about \$7,500!! Yea for us! Yea for those who contributed events/activities people could purchase! Yea for those who were able to purchase those events/activities! Yea for those who have already paid up (and we know the rest of you will soon get your check to the office - if you are not sure what or if you still owe, contact Rick at rickwilson7863@msn.com.)

This is obviously a great committee to work on (success is really fun!) and there are already new ideas for next year. While the current committee (Kate Beck, Rick Wilson, Juel Erickson, and Laurie Radin) really enjoyed it all, we would love to have some new folks join for next year. Please contact any one of us about what that would mean. You are welcome to join!

Celebration Sunday

July 5th we will celebrate all of those special days coming up in the month of July. Be sure to write your birthday, graduation, anniversary, and other special occasions on the Celebration Sunday board. Of course, there will be treats! If anyone would like to contribute treats please call Helena Parker at 206-784-7105.



Barbecue Invitation

SUUC's Pagan interest group invites you to an informal barbecue get-together at Robin Bruins' house on Saturday, July 25, at 5 p.m. This is a chance for all of us to get to know each other better and have some fun. Please bring something to share and something to grill and RSVP to Robin, 206-789-0783 or rbhsc@seanet.com. See you there!



Appreciating Elderhood

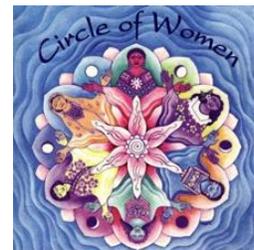
Our Appreciating Elderhood group is taking a summer break for the month of July. Regular sessions will resume in August, when they will meet at noon on Friday, August 7 and August 21.

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, July 18, 9-11 a.m. All SUUC men are welcome at our monthly breakfast meetings on the third Saturday of each month in 2015.

SUUC Women's Circle

The Shoreline UU Women's Circle will meet Saturday, July 11 (not July 4) 10 a.m., in Chrysalis. This will be one of our deeper thinking sessions and the topic is "Mothers and Daughters." We all had mothers (or someone who mothered us) and we were all daughters. Let's explore this topic together. All women welcome.



Do You Like to Knit? Join us July 22!

Calling all knitters to get together every fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m., to knit and talk! Looking forward to seeing you in the Church Conference Room. -*Rebecca Prosser and Karen Thompson*

New Workshop Starting in Fall

Honoring Our Grief: a workshop for those grieving a sudden death through homicide, suicide or accident. This is a weekend program that incorporates mindfulness practice, education about the process of grief related to sudden death, sharing our stories and developing a ritual to say good-bye. It is designed for people who are mourning the sudden loss of a loved one, no matter how long ago, especially those who feel haunted by the death in some way. The workshop will be held this fall (it will include a weekend and one day follow-up 2-3 weeks later). If you or anyone you know would like more information, please contact Jean Berolzheimer at jeanberolz@gmail.com or 206-307-6674.

Here is a big THANK YOU to all of the grounds helpers out there!

To **Kristen and Bruce Hunt** for all the work on grounds done separate from work parties: planting and weeding around the statue on south side of the property, clearing the sidewalk of debris, planting geraniums at the entrance to the driveway, maintaining our indoor plants, and more. To **Bob Plaag, Mark Fowler, Dave Duke, and Ken Ritland** who worked on June 13 at the grounds work party. Thanks all for weeding and clearing pathways. It was a HOT day to be working in the sun. To **Dave Duke** for taking all our debris to the transfer station for composting. To **Rick Wilson** for maintaining the parking strip area and to **Kim Hayes** for watering the outside pots when Laura was out of town. And to all the young people who pulled "velcro" weeds as part of giving to their church community.



Hoping to see lots of people July 11 -- the next grounds cleanup event. Note: The Women's Circle is also meeting July 11, 10-noon (instead of July 4). Let's do grounds from 1-3 p.m. Is anyone from the Women's Circle willing/able to stay and help with grounds? Laura will bring ice and water. If you don't have time to stay, but would like to contribute finger food snacks to garden workers, we would love to eat them! Laura will be setting up a water table and opening the shed for tool access between noon and 1 p.m.

Happy gardening!
Laura Westbrook, wildweeder@gmail.com

Hymn of the Month--July



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. For July we will use a simple hymn, composed by our neighbor to the north in British Columbia, Joyce Poley. "I Will Not Pass By" brings to mind the parable of the Good Samaritan from the gospel of Luke, in which many men pass by a traveler beaten on the road until the despised man from Samaria stops to help. Poley asks us if WE will stop to help a neighbor in need--the stranger, the homeless child, the battered woman? Please join us in learning this new song of UU values.

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

The July 1 meeting of the Evening Book Group (aka "The Owls of Minerva") will be a discussion of *The Memory Chalet* by Tony Judt, a series of the great modern historian's beautifully evoked memories of different phases of his own life, dictated while he was paralyzed with ALS (Lou Gehrig disease). The meeting will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Church Conference Room. Bob Beekman will lead the book discussion.



At our meeting on August 5, the reading will be *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson. For our September 2 meeting, the reading will be *The Divide* by Matt Taibbi. 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, rbeekman@gmail.com.

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 (rbeekman@gmail.com).

To receive the weekly email **Carrie's Commentaries** with insightful reporting on prior Sunday sermons as well

July Calendar

Wed., July 1

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

Thurs., July 2

7:45-9 p.m. Music Committee, Conference Room

Sun., July 5

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

Wed., July 8

6:30-8 p.m. Weekly Potluck, Orchard
7-9 p.m. Board Meeting, Conference Room
7-8:30 p.m. Welcome Team Meeting, Sanctuary

Sat., July 11

9 a.m.-noon Grounds Work Party, Outside
9:30-11:30 a.m. Social Action Ministry Meeting, Conference Room
10 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Women's Circle

Sun., July 12

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

Mon., July 13

7-8 p.m. Grounds Meeting, Chrysalis

Tues., July 14

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

Wed., July 15

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

Thurs., July 16

7-8:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting, Conference Room

Fri., July 17

10-11:30 a.m. Charites Chalice Circle, Hesterberg Residence

Sat., July 18

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

Sun., July 19

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

Mon., July 20

10 a.m. Soundings Copy Deadline

Tues., July 21

6-8 p.m. Food Lifeline Project

Wed., July 22

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

7-9 p.m. Knitting Group, Conference Room

Sun., July 26

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

11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m Pagan Group Check-In

11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Family Potluck, Twin Ponds Community Garden

Mon., July 27

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

Wed., July 29

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

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July Sunday Volunteers

July 5

Ushers: Paul Borrmann & Homer Henderson

Greeters: Dianne Carreri & Joan Brooks

Baristas: Kathy Reid & ?

July 12

Ushers: Christina Horst & Barbara Stilson

Greeters: Sharon Greenman & Rick Wilson

Baristas: ? & ?

July 19

Ushers: Shirley Beresford & Donald Patrick

Greeters: Dianne Carreri & Sharon Greenman

Baristas: Amanda Ray & ?

July 26

Ushers: Alison & Jeff Lilly

Greeters: Sue Leisy & Carolyn Brenner

Baristas: ? & ?

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