

Soundings



Newsletter of Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church

Minister's Message for May



Hello, my dear church family,

Here we are in May, and as flowers open the air is sweet with their honeyed fragrance. Perhaps that same fragrance is setting off your allergies, but at least the sun has returned and summer is on its way. This month Jay and I are moving to Edmonds, to the first house we have owned together. We can't wait to sow seeds in the garden and meet our new neighbors. Spring is a terrific time for new beginnings.

A new chapter is opening in the life of our congregation. In June, we will begin demolition of our Chrysalis building in order to make way for a new structure. While the Chrysalis holds many dear memories for me—Newcomer Brunches, the Writing Group, preparing for the Christmas play with the children, baking Thanksgiving pies with the youth group. I am excited to see the new building, with its big meeting rooms and social hall. While the summer months will be dedicated to removing the Chrysalis and the two portable buildings, the fall will bring our new space.

We will say a ceremonial goodbye to the Chrysalis at our May 21 worship service. If you have stories about experiences in the Chrysalis, especially its arrival on our campus or its renovations, I would love to hear them. A collection of these tales will be told at the service. Give me a call or send me an email, and tell me about your time in our special space.

With spring's new beginnings comes the time for our annual Baby Dedication! On June 11, we will welcome new babies and toddlers to our church family. If your family would like to participate, please let me know. Kiddos will be introduced to the congregation and we adults will commit to being positive role models and friendly, approachable helpers to them as they grow. It is a very moving ritual—don't miss it! On June 11, we are also celebrating Flower Communion, a UU tradition going back to the 1940s. Bring a flower to give and look forward to taking home a bloom as well.

Just a reminder—our congregation doesn't close for the summer! We will be here each Sunday morning, the soul of Sunday, your spiritual oasis in a busy world. Since I traveled for several weeks in Palestine and Israel this spring, I will be here many more Sundays than usual this summer, so keep me company in our cool sanctuary. Our Children's Religious Exploration program is especially fun during the summer, as the children spend a great deal of time exploring the outdoors and learning about their place in the interdependent web of existence. On Sunday's when the kids need to be indoors we are borrowing space from Aegis, the retirement community just half a block away. Aegis is generously allowing us use of their library in exchange for our kids doing activities with their elders—a win-win situation!

I hope you all are well as we move into a beautiful time of year. Come see us on Sunday mornings. Don't hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns — minister@shorelineuu.org, 206-363-7994.

Affectionately,
Rev Kate



President's Update



I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Congregational Meeting on May 28. As usual, we have several things to consider and votes to be taken, which you can read about elsewhere in this issue of Soundings.

New building plans are posted in the foyer. Let me know if you have questions at cjtgill1@gmail.com or 206-368-9479. Ed Buzzell can also help you, ebuzzell@frontier.com.

Next step: I will be scheduling a work party to take lumber and debris from under the east portable and Chrysalis itself to the dump before the rodent abatement is done in mid-May. I may be calling you - I'll be looking for person power and truck power. Then in June we need another work party to move plants that we want to replant later around the new building. We'll move everything from ground cover to small trees and bushes.

There is much going on regarding the new building and the winding down of yet another Board year. I want to thank Mandy Ray, Ali Lilly, and Adam Griffith for their intelligent and thoughtful service to the Board and the congregation. I will miss them very much.

Carolyn Threadgill
President, Board of Trustees
Chair, New Building Committee

Money Talks

Speaking of the New Building...



For the past few months Money Talks has been about some of the major challenges we will be confronting in our annual operating budget; I have hardly mentioned the new building project at all, primarily because the financing plan for the new building is almost completely independent of the operating budget.

I say "almost" because that plan does involve taking out two long-term loans: a loan of \$100,000 from our Endowment Committee, and another loan of up to \$150,000 from the Verity Credit Union. These loans will be paid back through monthly payments of principal and interest, and those funds will have to come each year from our operating budget. The annual combined cost of the two loans is estimated at \$16,500 (the Verity interest rate is not yet fixed).

The financing plan calls for capital pledge payments of \$500,000, based on a total project cost of \$895,000. This amazing congregation succeeded in meeting that goal a year ago, with pledges of just over \$500,000! But the experience of virtually every church's capital campaign tells us we should expect that some pledgers will be unable to complete their pledge. Furthermore, the costs are not yet finalized. We are hoping to have bids on the site preparation costs by the end of May. The bids may well push the total cost somewhat higher.

But even if the bids don't result in higher costs and even if very few pledges become "uncollectible," it would be a great benefit to SUUC if some of you who have not yet made a pledge commitment to the new building were to do so now. Every dollar we raise from pledges REDUCES the amount we will need to borrow long-term from Verity, and therefore will make more money available each year for other congregation priorities.

(continued)

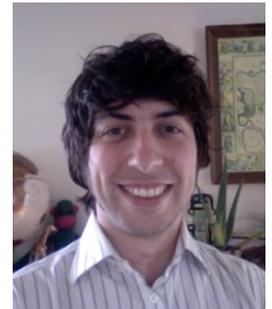
Many of you have joined our community since the capital campaign was conducted in 2015. Others may not have felt able to make a commitment then, but may be able to now. So, if you have not yet made a pledge, please consider doing so now. As always, I welcome your questions and comments.

Paul Borrmann
VP-Finance

Director of Religious Exploration

Greetings to all of you. With only one more month to go in the church/school year, there's a lot coming down the pipe in the next few weeks which I'd like to let you know about.

First off, as attendance is always pretty low on the Sunday of the Seabeck retreat, which falls on May 7 this year, we won't be having regular RE classes this day, but there will be an all-ages session planned. Nursery/preschool care will also be offered as usual on this Sunday. To those of you attending Seabeck this year, I hope you all have a total blast there and that you find some quality time to bond with new friends and old.



The following two Sundays, May 14 and 21, are the last regular RE Sundays in which kids will complete the curriculum of their classes. The following Sunday, May 28, which falls on Memorial Day weekend, will be the final day of classes in which kids will do an "end of year check-in" session in which they will review what they've learned, and have a little celebration together afterward. This "end of year check in" is basically an evaluation that each child will do that will help me understand how we are doing in meeting the RE program's goals. As I've mentioned before, the "end of year check-in" process is as low pressure as it gets and is something I view more as an evaluation of our program than how each specific kid is doing. It only takes a few minutes and there's no grading or gold stars or anything of this nature; all the data collected from the evaluation will just be for my use and will help guide me in how we craft teacher trainings, curriculum planning, parent orientation, and so on. If you aren't able to attend this day, I'll send you home with some materials shortly after.

After this Sunday, we'll have a worship service on June 4 in which we'll recognize the youth who will have just completed the 7th-9th grade OWL program. Especially if you have kids that are approaching this grade range, I encourage you to come so they can hear a bit about this program, see and hear from the kids that went through it, and generally get the idea that they all have smiles on their face at the end of it! =)

The Sunday after this is always a jam packed one. On Sunday, June 11, we'll be celebrating:

- Teacher Appreciation, in which we recognize the many RE volunteers who made the kids' programs come to life this year,
- Flower Communion, in which we invite you to bring a cut flower for every member of your family to exchange during the service,
- Children's "Graduation," in which we honor all the kids who are moving up to a new classroom this year, AND Child Dedication, a ritual in which the congregation commits to care for the newest members of our community. If you'd like your child to be dedicated in our church or want to know more about what this entails, please talk to Rev. Kate or myself.

(continued)

This is always a big day--we really encourage you, if at all possible, to attend this Sunday's service. After this Sunday, the K-8th combined children's summer sessions will begin. There's going to be a big emphasis on outdoors activities this summer, not just because the weather will be nice, but because our RE buildings will not exist anymore by this point! As always, this is a great opportunity to dip your toes into spending some time with the kids. If you can spend two or three Sundays in the summer with me and the children and youth, let me know and we'll get scheduled for some days that work for you!

I know that we are approaching a busy time of year for many parents of children with the school year wrapping up; I hope that you and your family are not too overwhelmed and that our little church community continues to be a place of respite and peace for you in the coming weeks. Look forward to seeing all of you on Sunday and hopefully outside of Sunday as well!

Chris Pollina
shorelinedre@gmail.com

Intern Minister



Happy May! The earth continues to create itself anew! The buds on the cherry trees have turned to blossoms and fallen, and now we wait impatiently for the arrival of the glorious Pacific Northwest summer. I will be preaching on Mother's Day this month, and the theme is "Hope and Fear." This feels appropriate! In my life, there has been nothing that has inspired more hope and fear than my journey of mothering.

And while on Mother's Day it's important to honor all those women who gave us birth and who loved us into being, mothering goes beyond the biological. To mother someone or something is the act of giving life to a new creation. And everyone does it. The desire to create is a deep human need. And I will be reflecting on all those ways we experience hope and fear while in the act of creation. Creativity takes courage! So, let's gather on Mother's Day and get inspiration and support from one another.

I'm also attending my first professional minister gathering this month and I'm very excited about it. As I bring this first year of my two-year internship to a close, and take the summer off (starting in the middle of June) I am filled with gratitude for this amazing community at Shoreline UU church. All of the people who have encouraged me and nurtured me (and even offered me gentle critique!) I feel very blessed to be with you all. Thank you so much for supporting my journey into ministry.

Many blessings to you this month! As always, I'm available to talk over coffee and tea and would love the opportunity to get to know you better.

Much love,
Jessica Star Rockers

Side by Side... a column from Mental Health and Recovery Ministries

This year I've devoted this column to gifts we all can give to those who struggle with mental illness or addiction. This month the gift is nature. In the parking lot of the hospital right now...there is some flowering plant or bush or tree that is sending out this incredible perfume. I'm distracted or tired, walking to my car and then that beautiful smell washes over me. It completely grabs my full attention. I take a deep breath and feel myself becoming more grounded and centered. Nature has many gifts to offer. Sometimes it gives us peace.



For many of us, being outside in nature is a holy enterprise. Since we live in this place of beautiful water, beautiful mountains, and beautiful National and Washington State Parks, we are so very blessed. Any time of the year, with very little travel, we can be somewhere extraordinary. Then at other times, we just have to walk into work! When we get outside, we notice a shift in our attention and sometimes a shift in our mood. Sometimes a shift is all we need to feel better and more connected. Nature can be the easiest gift to give!

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 May will be held in the conference room at church on May 22, 2017, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There is a place for you to join us!

Rev. Barbara Cornell, Affiliated Community Minister

May 2017 Worship Services

Sunday, May 7, 10:30 a.m.: "Articulating Purposes in Life," Pulpit Guests Jerald Forster, Ann Skutt, Bob Beekman, and Julianne Seeman

Sunday, May 14, 10:30 a.m.: "The Act of Mothering," Jessica Star Rockers, Intern Minister; Choir Sings

Sunday, May 21, 10:30 a.m.: "Every Purpose Under Heaven," Rev. Kate Landis; Chrysalis Decommissioning; Choir Sings

Sunday, May 21, 7 p.m.: Night Meditation Service

Sunday, May 28, 10:30 a.m.: "Hope that Surpasses Understanding," Rev. Kate



Minutes from the April Board of Trustees Meeting

Attending: Carolyn Threadgill, Ali Lilly, Paul Borrmann, Mandy Ray, Kate Landis, Ryan Dunne (guest)

Excused: Judi Kalitzki, Juel Erickson, Adam Griffith

Opening: Call to order, Opening words and chalice lighting, March 2017 Minutes were unanimously approved.

1. Administrator attending Board meetings: Per Rev. Kate, our administrator Laurie Radin has found the added 4 hrs./week to be less stressful. Kate reports that Laurie used to attend Board meetings (back when Thomas was the minister) but then became too busy to attend. She and Kate think it would be helpful to all to have the administrator present at Board meetings. The Board agreed that she was welcome to attend meetings as part of her job provided that she is able to meet the current customary demands of her job as well.

2. Congregational Life Committee report. Ali: Ali reported on the latest CLC meeting which generated lots of ideas and renewed energy about moving forward. They are currently moving forward with nominees for the new committee for election at the May congregational meeting.

3. Sabbatical plans for 2018: Budget, speakers, worship planning, pastoral care, staff supervision, etc. Kate, et al.: There are a lot of things to address (many small pieces), so planning ahead helps. Per Paul, the minister's agreement includes the minister submitting a plan for how sabbatical time will be spent. Then the Board helps create a coverage plan during the time away. Things to consider include how the Worship Planning Committee will have a role and Pastoral Care coverage (a contractual/on-call person is one option). The UUA has resources and a nice packet on planning for sabbatical. Kate will share that with the Board and start outlining what she does that will need coverage. Kate's sermon-writing workshop will hopefully be offered again in the next year to encourage more congregants to provide sermons. The duration of her sabbatical will be 6 months and is anticipated to start in August 2018.

4. Communications needed before May 28 Congregational Meeting: Written submissions to Laurie; oral announcements at meeting; printed materials for meeting; etc. Provide Judi with clear notes:

Order of agenda:

1. Approval of December minutes
2. Voting on new Board/committee members (Endowment and CLC) - performed by the nominating committee (Kate mentions that bios of the nominated members are really appreciated by the congregation)
3. Voting on Faith Action Network and Sanctuary Movement process
 - a. Written materials available would help. Maybe we could ask Judi or Bob to extract the FAN materials shared with the Board in March down to 1-2 pages for efficiency of copying. Something should also be submitted to May Soundings (deadline April 20th), and further details could be put on the bulletin Board
 - b. Dorothy and Kristina could also create some info for presentation to the congregation about the sanctuary movement
 - c. Anything to put on the overhead should be prepared and submitted ahead of time to the folks running the projector (no later than Friday before the meeting).
4. Bylaws changes
 - a. Written material for Soundings should note the sections that are changing and encouraging people to look at them on the bulletin Board in the hallway
 - b. We will not print out copies of the bylaws changes but they will need to be on PowerPoint slides
5. New building report
 - a. Building plans and site plans will be on the walls sometime before the meeting so there shouldn't need to be any written/copied materials. Paul will likely have an overhead or two about finances

(continued)

Additional logistics: Changes to annual reports will be covered in the bylaws. Until the bylaws are changed, we will still plan to have the annual reports available for congregational review at this meeting. Various Board members will reach out to the individual committees/groups that need to submit reports. Additional logistics were discussed.

5. Review of rental policies as approved by Laurie and Rick. Ali: Ali shared updates to the rental policy that she, Rick, and Laurie had discussed (Rental Committee). These included clarification of staff use of the space, timing, and appropriate fees. The Board recommended the use of a checklist or other written communication about what is expected of renters regarding clean up and securement of the building. Based on the policy presented, the Board and minister are responsible for approving exceptions to the policy going forward (not the Rental Committee). It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved that the Board approve the policy changes as written.

6. New building update. Carolyn: We have preliminary site plans and building plans. The initial check request for 25% payment for phase two (which allows the builders to start purchasing/stock piling materials while labor and industries approve the building plan) is being written/processed. The next big check will be due when the building is ready for delivery (sometime in August) and then again after the majority of the building is assembled on site. Per Paul, we will be waiting to take out the loans until that money is due to minimize the interest on the loans. We have collected \$367,000 of the new building pledges (this is ahead of schedule). The New Building Committee hopes to have the building permit in place by the congregational meeting.

A ceremony to celebrate the trees and the old buildings that will be lost as a result of the site preparation is tentatively being planned for May 21st service.

With the bank loan, we will be encumbering the property. This makes no practical difference, but it does change our relationship with the credit union and our operating budget. This means that anyone we have loan notes with has to approve our "mortgaging" the property--Paul has checked with the lenders and is working out the details with the appropriate people. We appear to be shaping up to be in good fiscal shape.

7. Miscellaneous Information relevant to the future: report on three committee assessments by Roseann London and Homer Henderson from COM at May Board meeting; get-acquainted meeting and strategy planning between Board and COM sometime in the future; policy review and amendments as needed. Carolyn: There is supposed to be a retreat between the COM and the Board at some point to discuss shared goals and get acquainted - this will happen after the May congregational meeting and election of new Board members. Roseanne and Homer from the COM will present the committee's review of B&G, worship planning, and stewardship committees to Board at the Board May meeting.

8. Authorizing more time for administrator: The Board had previously approved additional hours for the administrator for a period of 2 months. Given the feedback we have received from the administrator and personnel committee over that time, it was clear the 4 extra hours per week was exactly what was needed, but that a long range solution required more thought by the involved parties (our current administrator, the minister, and the Personnel Committee). The Board moved, seconded, and unanimously approved extension of the 4 additional hours to the administrator out of the budget for the next 3 months (April, May, and June), and a more long-term discussion in July when the initial budget processing begins.

9. UUA presidential election: Rev. Kate reported that we have about 5 delegate votes for the UUA presidential election. No one is currently planning to attend GA, but we can vote online. Discussion was had about having the Board vote or how to determine who among the congregation should vote.

10. Thank you notes and closing

Submitted by Mandy Ray

Congregational Meeting May 28

SUUC will hold its annual congregational meeting on Sunday, May 28, at noon, after our service. Light snacks will be served, and childcare will be provided.

In addition to electing members of the Board, Endowment Committee, our new Congregational Life Committee, and the church moderator, we will have a number of other important topics to hear about, discuss, and vote on. The agenda will be as follows:

- a. Approval of December 2016 Congregational Meeting minutes
- b. Vote on Bylaw changes proposed by the Board
- c. Presentation of the Nominating Committee's slate and vote on elected members of the Board, Endowment Committee, Congregational Life Committee, and Moderator
- d. Discussion of and vote on congregation joining Faith Action Network
- e. Discussion of and vote on congregation signing UUCSJ's Declaration of Conscience Regarding Immigrants and Refugees
- f. New Building Report

Please read related articles elsewhere in Soundings about the proposed bylaw change in term limits, Faith Action Network, and the UUCSJ's Declaration of Conscience Regarding Immigrants and Refugees.

The agenda may seem long, but remember how quickly we dispatched our business in December! The Board looks forward to seeing a great turnout again.

Proposed Bylaw Changes to be Voted on at the May 2017 Congregational Meeting

Last December, the congregation voted to create a new Congregational Life Committee to take on the functions of the Nominating Committee, as well as work on focusing SUUC as a place of spiritual, emotional, and intellectual growth and opportunities for leadership development for all its members. At that time, all bylaws having to do with the Nominating Committee were thereby changed.

Now the Board of Trustees is proposing additional bylaw changes. Most are what could be referred to as "housekeeping changes": that is, minor changes that are needed because the reality of what actually happens in the church makes certain bylaws outdated. A list of all those proposed bylaw changes is posted so you can see what you will be asked to vote on at the May meeting.

One proposed change is more substantive: limiting those serving on the Board, the Endowment Committee and as Moderator to two terms. Members of the Board have served only two terms by custom for many years; the bylaw change for the Board is to formalize that practice. For a full explanation of the Board's thinking behind proposing this change, see Ali Lilly's article below.

If you have questions about any of the proposed bylaw changes, any of the officers of the Board (Carolyn Threadgill, Judi Kalitzki, Paul Borrmann) will be happy to speak with you.

Slate of Candidates

Following is the slate of candidates for elective church offices, to be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting following the worship service of May 28. All terms, unless otherwise indicated, will last three years and begin in June 2017.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Ryan Dunne
Catherine Crain
Bill Hayes
(Holdovers are Carolyn Threadgill, Paul Borrmann,
Juel Erickson and Judi Kalitzki)

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE:

Bob Beekman (2-yr term)
Bruce Campbell
Laraine Volkman
(Holdovers are Christian Moore and Dev Nambi)

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE (Replaces and expands upon the mission of previously existing Nominating Committee):

Ann Maxwell (1-yr term)
Noel Bain (2-yr term)
Jeff Lilly
Deneen Bowen
Alyssa Bain

MODERATOR

Rick Wilson

Submitted by Lew Witham, Nominating Committee Chair

Three Reasons You Secretly Want SUUC Term Limits (And Didn't Even Know It)

Maybe you've heard the rumor... No, not that rumor. The boring one, about new term limits for elected positions at Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church.

"But wait a minute!" you say. "Aren't term limits a nefarious political plot of the T-" Let me stop you right there, friend.

I'm here to tell you three great reasons the SUUC Board of Trustees is proposing a by-law change about term limits at this year's Annual Congregational meeting in May.

So why would anyone want term limits here at SUUC?

1. For Simplicity

According to Article VI, Section 1, Subsection zzzz.... Yeah, see? Nobody reads those things. I bet you didn't even know that more than a quarter of elected positions already have term limits spelled out in our current by-laws. And why would you? You come to church to sing uplifting hymns and drink lots of coffee, not spend all your time combing through obscure legalese governing congregational polity. So wouldn't it be great if you could keep track of term limits without having to constantly double-check the fine print?

(continued)

Yes! And now you'll be able to. Our new proposal standardizes term limits across all elected positions, making them easy to remember and understand. Instead of a hodge-podge of lengths, durations, spans, stretches, periods and other synonyms, the term for all elected positions will be the same: three years per term, with a limit of two consecutive terms. It's that simple! This simplicity will allow for greater transparency AND increased leadership engagement (see point #2).

But what if you're the long-standing chair of the Committee Of Awesome and you've been doing a fantastic job? No worries! The term limits only apply to elected positions--most committees and committee chairs won't be affected. (Also, see point #3.)

2. For Cultivating Great Leaders

Ever been to a Thanksgiving family reunion, only to glance at the "kids' table" to discover that little niece Sally and wee nephew Bob are no longer the adorable tots they once were? Now they're sporting tie-dye haircuts, ironic 80s tees and massive student loan debt--and they're eyeing the "grown-ups' table" knowing that they'll never get to graduate to eating turkey and cranberry sauce off non-plastic dinnerware until they pry the patterned china out of Grandpa Larry's cold, dead hands.

Nobody wants our congregational leadership to end up this way. (Not even Grandpa Larry. Especially not Larry.)

Our church community is thriving, with more members joining every day. Introducing standardized term limits communicates strongly to all of our members that we welcome new voices and perspectives in leadership roles. It says: hey! our community is excited about the possibilities of a shared future just as much as we honor the wisdom of our shared past!

Like a lot of things in life, congregational leadership often works best when you have a graceful exit strategy - and that includes a mutual, straight-forward understanding of how long you can expect your commitment to last. Term limits mean that stepping into an elected position doesn't become a till-death-do-us-part kind of thing. Knowing there's a light at the end of the tunnel - a tunnel of fun, fulfilling work full of puppies and conference room meetings - will make it easier for people to say yes to opportunities to lead.

It also means that folks in leadership roles have the chance during their second term to think about crafting a legacy: to refine their approach, write it down somewhere for posterity, and help train up the new leaders who will take their place, making transitions better for everyone.

So Grandpa Larry can retire to the den to watch the Thanksgiving Day parade on TV, while you enjoy some of that sweet, sweet cranberry sauce knowing that one day, that china will be yours - it's already in the will.

3. For.... The Future!

Hey, remember how I said that most committees and committee chairs won't be affected? They won't!

The only people the new by-law change will impact directly will be those in elected positions that currently have a non-standard or non-specified term limit. (For some of these positions, the new standardize term limits will actually extend the number of years someone can serve.) Even for these few, the change won't be all that different from how we do things now. For more than a decade, a desire to foster healthy leadership and avoid burn-out has meant that 90% of folks in elected positions serve two terms or less, abiding by an informal agreement to limit the number of times a leader runs for re-election. These changes will turn this norm into a by-law, ensuring that this helpful practice continues in the future.

(continued)

And remember: if approved, the change will come into effect starting in May 2017 and will not be retroactive. What this means is that anyone already serving in a position or elected this year will have six full years before the new term limits apply to them. Essentially, they'll be able to continue serving in their current position (if they choose) until the year 2023.

To put that in perspective, that's three years into the term of our first Latinx Muslim female cyborg president. (Fingers crossed!)

That's also six whole years during which we could, you know, change the by-laws back... if we wanted.... for, like, reasons.

Feel better? I hope so! Thanks for sticking with me--and I hope to see you all at the Annual Congregational Meeting in May! (You too, Grandpa Larry!)

Alison Lilly, Board Member

SUUC to Vote on Joining Faith Action Network of Washington

Among other issues before SUUC's May 28 Congregational Meeting will be a proposal that SUUC join the Faith Action Network of Washington (FAN) as a member Advocating Faith Community (AFC). Faith Action Network is a large and effective legislative advocacy non-profit for progressive faith communities.



Faith Action Network is interfaith. Most of its member communities are progressive Protestant churches, but it also includes Buddhist, Jewish, Muslim, and Sikh groups. Several member churches are historically and currently African-American; a couple are primarily Hispanic. Seven UU congregations are members.

Acting on the UUA principles and SUUC's stated purposes, SUUC's Social Action Ministry and a number of individual SUUC congregants already perform the following minimal number of activities required for our church's membership in Faith Action Network:

1. Make an annual contribution to FAN a line item within our Social Action Ministry's portion of our congregation's annual operating budget.
2. Encourage congregants interested in legislative advocacy for social justice to purchase seats at FAN's annual fundraising dinner each November.
3. Send one or more people to FAN's annual Interfaith Advocacy Day at the State Legislature in Olympia as representatives of our congregation.
4. Keep legislative and governmental advocacy visible within our church by including it in church publications and bulletin boards.

Arrange for at least one adult education presentation annually about current public policy issues.

All that is lacking to make us as a member Advocating Faith Community (AFC) of FAN is a vote of commitment by our full congregation. The Social Action Ministry asks you for that vote on the 28th. For more on FAN, see its web site at <http://fanwa.org>. Or talk to any SUUC Social Action Ministry member.

Sanctuary Movement

“At this extraordinary time in our nation’s history, we are called to affirm our profound commitment to the fundamental principles of justice, equity and compassion, to truth and core values of American society.”

At the May 28 Congregational Meeting the Social Action Ministry will be asking our congregation to formally endorse the Declaration of Conscience issued by the UUA, stating our intention to put our values into action in response to a number of current issues. The opening paragraph of that declaration is quoted above; you can see the full text here: <http://www.uua.org/action/show-love/declaration-conscience> .

In this context a Social Action Ministry work group has been developing a strategy to engage our congregation in response to current threats to immigrants and refugees. We have been working with the Church Council of Greater Seattle, which is coordinating a regional effort among faith communities and others to provide an array of services, up to and including providing long-term sanctuary in places of worship.

As part of this effort, we envision SUUC engaging in a months-long process of discernment, congregational education/awareness-building, and individual actions aimed at supporting immigrants and refugees. Ultimately, we will ask the congregation to make an informed decision about whether our church should open its doors as a sanctuary. Meanwhile, our goal is to determine the most effective means for our congregation to support immigrants and refugees.

Community Announcements



What the Heck is Process Thought Anyway? And how can this radically different way of thinking recast our understanding of time, nature, the self, race and racism, society, politics, morality, and even God?

We’ve already started this course with an introductory session on April 25, but you can still join us on Tuesday evenings in May starting May 9. We’ll be meeting in the Church Conference Room from 7 to 8:30 p.m.--although interested participants may stay longer if they are swept up in the discussion. The text for the series is *Process Theology: An Introductory Exposition* by John B. Cobb and David Ray Griffin. (Note: Despite this title, there are process thinkers who are agnostics or atheists, and we’ll be talking about that.)

May 2--NO MEETING.

May 9--Discussion of *Process Theology: An Introductory Exposition*, pp. 7-40.

May 16--Discussion of *Process Theology: An Introductory Exposition*, pp. 41-79.

May 23-- Discussion of *Process Theology: An Introductory Exposition*, pp. 80-top of 118.

May 30--Discussion of *Process Theology: An Introductory Exposition*, pp. 118-161. (Any desire for future study?)

If a local bookstore is unable to order the book, you can buy the book used or new from sellers on Amazon Marketplace. Go to <http://www.shorelineuu.org/ways-to-share.html> on the SUUC website to place your Amazon order through the link there and our church will receive .5% of the purchase price of your shipped items. We have two donated loaner books if the book cost is a problem for you. Contact Bob Beekman (206-527-7340, rlbeekman@gmail.com) for more information. (You don’t have to sign up; just show up.)

SUUC Evening Book Group Meets May 3

“The owl of Minerva flies at dusk.”

The Evening Book Group (aka “The Owls of Minerva”) will meet on Wednesday, May 3, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Church Conference Room. We’ll be discussing *The People’s Republic of Amnesia* by Louisa Lim. The book is about the Tiananmen Square events of 1989 and the repression of their memory in China since then. Bob Beekman will facilitate the discussion of this interesting but disturbing book.



Looking ahead, our June 7 book will be *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging* by Sebastian Junger—a very short little book full of very big thoughts.

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

Hymn of the Month: #146 “Soon the Day Will Arrive”

Every month the Music Committee selects a hymn to introduce to the congregation, so that we may explore the rich musical heritage available to us. This Hebrew song was composed by Israeli Nurit Hirsch, shortly before the formation of the State of Israel. Ehud Manor wrote the English words, as well as the Hebrew text, which translates as “Next Year.”



Plate Share for the Month

Peace for the Streets by Kids from the Street, will be our Plate Share recipient on May 21. Peace for the Streets is a local nonprofit that supports homeless and at-risk youth and young adults, while empowering them to lead positive and self-sufficient lives. Due to past difficulty in securing guest speakers on Mother’s Day, May’s Plate Share takes place on the third Sunday of May, the lone exception to normal second Sunday observances.

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, May 20, 9-11 a.m. We will discuss the theme “Hope and Fear” at this meeting. All SUUC men are welcome at our monthly breakfast meetings on the third Saturday of each month.



Sunday Volunteers

May 7

Greeters: Shirley Beresford and Milton Wagy
Ushers: Ryan and Zoey Dunne
Baristas: Mary Watts and Earl Davis
Videography: Rich Clark

May 14

Greeters: Marguerite Chin and Andy Landis
Ushers: Mary Lou Haberman and Homer Henderson
Barista: Tori Manzer
Videography: Jerald Forster

May 21

Greeters: Karen Thompson and Earl Davis
Ushers: Dianne Carreri and Robert Plaag
Barista: Kristen Hunt
Videography: Rich Clark

May 28

Greeters: Carolyn Brenner and Sue Leisy
Ushers: Paul Borrmann and Belle Moore
Barista: Susan Storer Clark
Videography: Jerald Forster

Social Action Ministry

All-Ages Volunteer Sunday at Mary's Place Cancelled for May. But We're On for June 4!

Because of the Seabeck Church Retreat, our May all-ages family volunteer afternoon at Mary's Place, normally scheduled after May 7 worship, is cancelled.

We'll be back on schedule with the next volunteer visit on June 4. Join us after church that Sunday for a couple hours of volunteering at Mary's Place North Shelter. Children, teens, adults, and elders can all contribute. Our tasks each month vary, but often include sorting and organizing donated items and spending time with resident kids. Contact Corinne at csherry@gmail.com if you have questions.



Social Action Ministry

Social Action Ministry Meeting Saturday, May 13

The SUUC Social Action Ministry (SAM) will meet on Saturday, May 13, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., in Chrysalis. Attend this meeting to engage with fulfilling current projects and to plan important SUUC social, economic, and environmental justice activities in these challenging times. We organize volunteer service, major donation campaigns, legislative advocacy, adult education on social and environmental issues, public witness and protest actions. A current focus of high concern is immigration, including possible Refugee and Sanctuary work. Please contact SAM Co-chairs Jean Berolzheimer or Mark Smith if you have any questions or suggestions for the SAM to consider at this meeting.



May Film on Extinction

The May Sno-King Meaningful Movie will be shown on Saturday, May 13, 7 p.m. at the Edmonds UUC, 8109 224 Street SW, Edmonds.

In *Racing Extinction*, a team of artists and activists exposes the hidden world of extinction with never-before-seen images that will change the way we see the planet. Two worlds drive extinction across the globe, potentially resulting in the loss of half of all species. The world of international wildlife trade creates bogus markets at the expense of creatures that have survived on this planet for millions of years. And the other world surrounds us, hiding in plain sight--a world that the oil and gas companies don't want the rest of us to see.

Dr. Kriss Kevorkian, author and expert on environmental grief, will be present to discuss the film with the audience. Come at 6:30 for conversation and refreshments.

The event is free but donations help us keep the project going. The Meaningful Movie Project is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization. More info at www.meaningfulmovies.org

Almost \$2,000 for Four Nonprofits Thanks to SRE Fund Leveraged Donations

Thanks to 19 SUUC congregants who made 17 individual donations on April 2, 9, and 16, bolstered by \$664.27 in 2016 Social Responsibility Endowment (SRE) Fund income, we are sending the following gifts to the four non-profits selected for this year's SRE Fund Leveraged Donation Campaign:



\$365.00 to ANSWER-Nepal (<http://answernepal.org>)

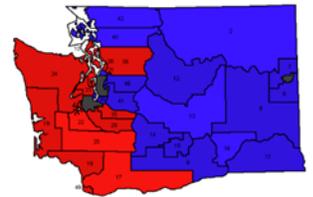
\$281.77 to Mongabay (<https://www.mongabay.com>)

\$932.38 to Syrian American Medical Foundation (<https://www.sams-usa.net>)

\$380.12 to Unitarian Universalist Service Committee [UUSC] (<http://www.uusc.org>)

You can check the on-line information for each nonprofit at the web links listed above. If you missed the chance to donate, you can make on-line donations there to these very worthy organizations. The SRE Fund donation guidelines established by the original endowment from Nick and Jeanne Aldrich call for an international [or non-U.S.] emphasis or an environmental emphasis.

**Friends or relatives in Central or Eastern Washington?
Maybe they should go to one of Faith Action Network's Spring Summits
in Yakima and Spokane in May. Maybe you should go meet them there
to introduce them to advocacy by progressive faith communities!**



May 7, 3-5 p.m. -- Englewood Christian Church, 511 N. 44th Avenue, Yakima

May 21, 3-5 p.m. -- West Central Episcopal Mission, 1832 W. Dean Ave., Spokane

RSVP on FAN's website at <http://fanwa.org/events-2/regional-spring-summits/>. Vancouver and Seattle summits will be in June.

FAN's advocating faith communities across Washington State come together in Spring Summits to talk about how its legislative agenda fared during the past session and to plan for the special session and for the rest of the year. FAN begins to craft its legislative advocacy agenda for the following year; so, if your faith community has issues you want FAN to consider, this is your opportunity to get them on the radar.

May Calendar of Church Events

Tuesday, May 2

7-9 p.m. Board Meeting, Conf. Room

Wednesday, May 3

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

7-8:30 p.m. Evening Book Group, Conf. Room

Thursday, May 4

6-8:30 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Chrysalis

6-7:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

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

Friday, May 5

12-1:30 p.m. Appreciating Elderhood, Sanctuary

Saturday, May 6

10 a.m.-noon Women's Circle, Chrysalis

Sunday, May 7

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, May 9

1:30-2:45 p.m. Chalice Circle, Nursery

7-8:30 p.m. Process Thought Class, Conf. Room

Wednesday, May 10

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

7-8:30 p.m. Welcome Team, Conf. Room

Thursday, May 11

6-8:30 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Conf. Room

6-7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Saturday, May 13

9:30-11 a.m. Social Action Ministry, Conf. Room

5:30-9:30 p.m. Neighborhood Grp. 10 Potluck, Sanc.

Sunday, May 14

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, May 16

7-8:30 p.m. Chalice Circle, Chin Residence

7-8:30 p.m. Process Thought Class, Conf. Room

Wednesday, May 17

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

7-8:30 p.m. Worship Planning, Conf. Room

Thursday, May 18

6-8:30 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Conference Room

6-7:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Friday, May 19

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

12-1:30 p.m. Appreciating Elderhood, Sanct.

7-10 p.m. Pub Theology, TBA

Saturday, May 20

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

9 a.m.-noon Newcomer Orientation, Chrysalis

10 a.m. Soundings copy deadline

Sunday, May 21

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

12-2 p.m. Anti-Inflammatory Class, Conf. Room

12-3 p.m. OWL, Chrysalis

7-8 p.m. Night Meditation, Sanctuary

Monday, May 22

6:30-8:30 p.m. Family/Friends Support Group, Conf. Room

Tuesday, May 23

7-8:30 p.m. Process Thought Class, Conf. Room

Wednesday, May 24

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

Thursday, May 25

6-8:30 p.m. Weekly Game Night, Conference Room

6-7:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Saturday, May 27

5:30-9:30 p.m. Neighborhood Grp. 4 Potluck, Sanctuary

Sunday, May 28

10:30-11:45 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:30 -1 p.m. GreenSong Brown Bag Lunch, Conf. Rm

12-2 p.m. Congregational Meeting

Tuesday, May 30

7-8:30 p.m. Process Thought Class, Conf. Room

Wednesday, May 31

6:30-8 p.m. Potluck Supper, Conference Room



NOTE: Baristas wanted! Sign up at www.tinyurl.com/suuc-coffee or contact Carrie, 425-773-1776 or permitted2shine@gmail.com

Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church

14724 First Avenue NE, Shoreline, WA 98155-6806 206-363-7994 www.shorelineuu.org office@shorelineuu.org

2016-2017 Board of Trustees:

Karen Thompson, President; Carolyn Threadgill, Vice President; Paul Borrmann, VP—Finance;
Adam Griffith, Secretary; Juel Erickson, Alison Lilly, Mandy Ray

Rev. Kate Landis, Minister(W) 206-363-7994
minister@shorelineuu.org

Jessica Star Rockers, Intern Minister (C) 206-890-2872
jessicastarrockers@gmail.com

Frederick N. West, Director of Music (C) 206-523-1200
northmanwest@earthlink.net

Chris Pollina, Director of Religious Exploration (C) 206-240-5500
shorelinedre@gmail.com

Laurie Radin, Church Administrator(W) 206-363-7994
office@shorelineuu.org

Soundings

Editor, Layout Artist: Laurie Radin
Proofreader: Bill King

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.

