

Mid-April - Mid-May 2018

The Weathervane

The Newsletter of United Christian Church, Renton, WA

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Find Direction at
United Christian Church,
An Open and Affirming
Congregation.
No matter where you are on
life's journey, you are
welcome here.



New Sign Up and Running

The new church sign, a legacy gift from **Bellevue Christian Church**, is now in service. Many people helped, including **Terry K.**, **Tom R.** and **Linda B.** on the search committee. Tom also found an electrical contractor and cement contractor to get City of Renton permits. Finally, on March 17th, with the help of a rented lift, **Tom R.**, **Cameron M.**, and **Diane B.** put up the sign and announcements before Easter. Photos and moral support was provided by **Linda B.** (Shown below studying the manual?) More photos inside.

Easter Activities Included the Maundy Thursday service (below) commemorating the Last Supper Jesus ate with his disciples. Twenty three people attended the potluck breakfast on Easter morning (but everyone was too busy eating to take a photo.) All who attended the Easter worship service were asked to help decorate the empty cross, also shown below afterward.



Vital Meeting on April 29th

Put Sunday, April 29, on your calendar to be in church for the called **Congregation Meeting** following the worship service. The Task Force groups will be reporting on their progress.

Joyce B. reports her plan is to order sandwiches from Panera Bread Catering for the lunch prior to the meeting. There will also be chips and salad and drinks. Price is \$10 per person for those who can pay. Others will still be covered. A signup sheet will be in the narthex starting April 15th. It is important that everyone who can, be there.





TALLEY'S TOPICS

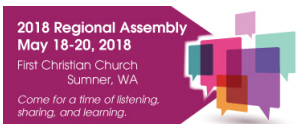
As I mentioned Sunday the big event recently in the lives of the Talley family is that we have sold our condo in Lynnwood and on Saturday put an offer down on a condo in the Bellingham area.

It was accepted on Monday. We have two sons in Bellingham and I was senior Pastor at the Disciples Church for 22 years. So it's kind of like returning home. We are really excited. Our Condo in Lynnwood closes May 1, Bellingham May 15th. We have rented a place in Birch Bay for the first two weeks in May.

Now the question is "What does this mean to United Christian Church. Really, nothing. I will continue to serve as your interim pastor. My schedule will change a little and being available will not be as handy. I plan on being in Renton Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays, then working from home (in Bellingham) for study, sermon and church class preparation. The Pastor Relations Committee and Council have been notified and I am working with them in scheduling. Hopefully we will be able to do more on Sunday and Monday evenings. I will be staying overnight in the Renton area at least on Sunday and Monday nights. Details on where are still in flux. I will keep you posted. Keep us in your prayers, moving can test your limits.

See you Sunday,..... DICK

DISCIPLES ASSEMBLY



Courageous Engagement
Hearing Each Other's Stories
with Keynote Speaker Rev. Terri Hord Owens
General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Join us at First Christian Church, Sumner, WA May 18-20, 2018, for our bi-annual Regional Assembly. "Courageous Engagement: Hearing Each Other's Stories" will be our theme. Come for a time of listening, sharing, and learning. Our keynote speaker will be **Rev. Terri Hord Owens**, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Each Disciple congregation is entitled to four delegates. If you are interested in attending and representing United Christian Church, Renton please contact **Pat Auten or Pastor Dick**.



Moderator's Musings
from Pat Auten

Key Information:
Cameron McL. is the

keeper of the keys. If you have keys, remember you are responsible for those keys. They are not to be shared or given to someone else without Cameron's approval. We need to know at all times who has keys and to which facility they belong. A big thank you to Cameron for taking on this responsibility.

Thank you to **Nancy O.** for finding such great speakers to fill our pulpit while Pastor Dick was on a vacation. It is good to have him back. When he is in his office, please make sure to knock before entering to make sure it is a good time to talk with him. Don't hesitate to make an appointment with him if you need to have a long discussion with him.

Thank you **Search Committee members** as they look for our settled pastor. I know they have been working hard on all the paperwork involved.

Thank you to **Dee W.** for all you do to keep up with your different duties involved with our building and grounds, as well as helping with special fellowship projects.

Thank you, **Chris C.** for seeing that we always have hymns to go with the service on Sunday and making the choir sound like angels. Your time and effort are appreciated as well as the time and effort of the **choir members.** We also appreciate your hard work on the bulletin.

We are looking forward to hearing our new pianist, **Cindy D.**, and look forward to seeing **Lavon B.** among the congregation.

Thank you to all the members of the congregation who assist in making each Sunday special, and being available to assist when needed.

And a special thank you to **Claudia G.** for seeing that we have a monthly newsletter. Your work is appreciated by all.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the Congregational Meeting after church on April 29th. **Joyce B.** is exploring luncheon options.

UCC ANNUAL CONFERENCE



The Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ invites you to our Annual Meeting, April 27 – 29 in Yakima, WA Celebrate the transforming power we experience in community!

It's More than just a "get to know you" exercise; intentional conversations that identify the needs of people in our communities can have a profound impact on our ministries and are a big part of the conference. Our theme this year, "**Breaking Forth**", celebrates our ministry of building deeper relationships and growing vitality in our churches and communities.

This year we'll continue to deepen relationships and strengthen vitality in every setting of our conference. Leading the Conference as keynote speaker will be **Bishop Dwayne Royster**, from Living Water UCC in Philadelphia. Bishop Royster is the Political Director for PICO (People Improving Communities through Organizing). Using a large group workshop method, we'll learn and then practice how to identify and address the root causes of problems in our communities. Based on a belief in the transformation of people, institutions and communities, this will help us, as people of faith, learn how to partner with others so that we can make a difference.

Each church is entitled to three delegates. Our Council has approved **Cameron McL.** as one of our delegates and he has agreed to represent United Christian Church of Renton. The Registration Fee will be paid by the church out of the Conference Expense.

Renton Ecumenical Association of Churches (REACH)

The new Executive Director, **Rev. Bianca Davis-Lovelace**, sent out a report of their accomplishments in 2017 and needs at the end of the first quarter of 2018. She wrote:

"As we come to the end of the first quarter of 2018 REACH is facing a **SEVERE** decrease in monetary resources. As much as we truly appreciate our volunteers, donated time, food, and supplies **DO NOT PAY STAFF & KEEP OUR PROGRAMS RUNNING**. We need to save money to move our meal program into a leased space before the end of the year when our free space is no longer available to us. After March we cannot make payroll and we cannot operate without our paid staff.

We continue to look at where we can further cut expenses without cutting services to our clients. We need help to keep our important work going. Please help us continue to serve "the least of these."

Go to REACHrenton.org and make a contribution today. Contact admin@reachrenton.org for more information.

Ongoing Outreach

Continue to bring cereal for the breakfast for the **homeless**. It is appreciated by REACH. We will continue to collect cereal and deliver it as long as it is needed.

Canned goods (fruits, veggies, meat) are appreciated by the Salvation Army **Food Bank**. Be sure to check that they are not past their expiration dates.

Communities In Schools need: full size shampoo and conditioner; toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouth wash; brushes and combs, deodorant; hand soap, body soap; Chapstick and skin lotion; laundry detergent, toilet paper, sanitary napkins.

[Suggestion: *Bring one of these items whenever you come to church.~C~*]



Bill Bergman Nominated

for Citizen of the Year and the City of Pacific chose him as their **Youth Focused Volunteer of the Year**.

Congratulations, Bill!

Below, **Nancy L.** cuts to length flowers to decorate the cross at the front of the sanctuary before giving them to worshipers on Easter morning.



Dates & Times to Remember

Sundays: Adult Bible Class, 9:15-10:15 am, Office Bldg.

Sundays: Worship, 10:45; includes Children's Sunday School.

Sundays: Sermon on the Mount Study Grp: 6pm, AA room

2nd & 4th Mondays: Monday Munchers lunches, 12:30, see below.

Thursdays: Choir Practice, 7pm. New members welcome.

ROMEOS (Retired Old Men Eating Out Somewhere), 12:00.

(Talk to Carl Kever, Ed Gillispie or Terry Kimsey for location.)

Other Groups Use Our Campus

Monday through Friday: Montessori School in Ed. Bldg., 7am-5pm

Mondays: Hula Group Practices, 11:00 am-1:00 pm in Narthex

2nd & 4th Fridays: SCA group uses our buildings, 6:00-10:00 pm

Saturdays: AA meets in the Ed. Bldg. basement.- 10:30 am

Apr. 22, Elders Meet following worship

Apr. 22, Worship Comm. Mtg, following worship

Apr. 23, Mon. Munchers, 12:30, @Mitzel's in Kent

Apr. 29, Called Congregation Meeting, and Lunch

May 1, REACH mtg, 12:00 noon, (1st Tuesday) at:

Renton Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 1031 Monroe Ave NE

May 1, Council Meets, 6:30pm, Office Bldg. Conf. Rm

May 14, Mon. Munchers, 12:30, @Paolo's, Kent

May 15, Email Newsletter sent out

May 28, Mon. Munchers, @Plum Delicious in Renton Highlands

*We can choose to throw stones--
or to stumble on them
or to climb over them
or to build with them.*

Thank You Note

The family of Phil Johnson wishes to thank everyone for their on going prayer and concern during Phil's last illness. It helped us to know so many people cared. Thank you too, for the cookies and concern that you gave to us at Phil's Services. It all has been greatly appreciated.



[Over 120 persons attended Phil's memorial service on April 8th. ~Editor~]

Anniversaries

Apr. 24, Tom Winger/Don Freed, 2004



At left:

Easter morning play featuring **Dee W., Randy C., Barb C., Caroline B., and Chris C.**

At Right
Choir on Easter Morning as they perform a mini-cantata in conjunction with the play, above, written by Director **Chris Copley**.





On March 17th, spring cleaning day, twelve folks worked for three hours cleaning and polishing the sanctuary building and the conference room, plus **Peter D.**, picked up two garbage bags of campus lawn trash.

Shown at left taking a break are **Leona H., Dee W., Caroline B., and Jean G.** Shown below are the intrepid trio who spent March 17th afternoon setting up our sign, **Tom R., Diane B., and Cameron McL.** We sincerely thank all of you.

What's Happening

Cindy Dow, our new pianist, began her service with us on Sunday, April 8, playing for the morning worship and for Phil Johnson's memorial. We hope to interview her soon for a future item in *The Weathervane*.

Cameron McL. reports he met with the Deputy Fire Marshall. All three of our buildings passed the fire inspection with only minor issues which have been addressed already. The church fire extinguishers were also inspected last week are all now at full capacity.

Lynnette S. has volunteered to be the church "sign maintenance person" (for want of a better title). She will keep our new sign updated.

The Council has authorized **Carl and Donna K.** and **Jean G.** to audit the church's financial records for the last two years.

The congregation is reminded that **Randy Chapman** is now Vice-Moderator and thus chair of the Finance Committee. **Linda Becker** is now Treasurer. The two switched offices to better fit Randy's work schedule.



Building cleaners are needed to clean the sanctuary and office/conference room. **Jean G.** has committed to cleaning the sanctuary building one week a month. Please note she has been doing this weekly for some time. The sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex. If Several folks signed up for a week, the burden would not fall on one or a few. Thank you, Jean, for your commitment.



At Left:
This display was set up by **Michael M.** at Phil Johnson's memorial.

The Last Supper sculpture was given to the church many years ago but has been in storage. **Leigh L.** found it and cleaned it so it can be used again. We thank both Leigh and Michael.