

SANDPOINTER

Sand Point Community United Methodist Church
4710 Northeast 70th Street
Seattle, Washington 98115-6148

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SANDPOINTER

February 10, 2015

**Sand Point Community
United Methodist Church**

4710 NE 70th St., Seattle, WA 98115-6148
206-523-3040

spcommunity@qwestoffice.net
Rev. Dr. Beryl Ingram, Pastor

**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

Ash Wednesday Service

February 18th

7:00 p.m.

Chapel

The tradition of receiving the sign of the cross to signify the beginning of the forty days of Lent is an ancient practice -- at least a thousand years old. The service is brief, the primary act being the sign of the cross impressed in ash on the forehead or on the backs of the hands of people who have come to silently confess their brokenness / sin, ask for forgiveness, and recalling the promise of God's saving grace in their baptism, receive the ashes as a reminder of their mortality. one service. 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Pastor's Perspectives ...

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 P.M. Wednesday, February 18th. In some churches people gather on Tuesday evening to gorge themselves on pancakes, syrups and other sweet concoctions. That tradition dates back to Medieval Europe where winters were long and harsh. For many folks, larders were low or empty by mid-February, so the custom sprang up to gather whatever flour and eggs and oil and cream was available and on the eve of Lent, a forty day season of penitence, prayer, and fasting, come together at the church to frolic and enjoy a final satisfying meal to remember through the harsh days of fasting to come.

It was practical. It provided a gathering for the community. It utilized the little bits that alone didn't amount to much, but combined with little bits from other kitchens, made a meal. It was the last bit of tom-foolery before the pinched and harsh season of Lent.

That custom became a tradition, and in many churches there will be Shrove Tuesday celebrations on February 17th. In New Orleans and other places it is called Marti Gras and it has taken on a life of its own quite disconnected from its theological beginnings. I was told that you had tried Shrove Tuesday festivities here but the turnout was disappointing and so you shifted to a Pancake Breakfast AFTER worship on the Sunday prior to Ash Wednesday.

We are not doing that this year. It may or may not be something you will do next year or in the future, but this year there seems to be no energy for getting it together. We will, however, break bread together in that way on EASTER, which is on April 5th this year.

That is about eight weeks from now. So, between now and Easter I hope that someone or some group of people will contact me to say, "I/we will take charge of the EASTER Pancake Breakfast and joyfully produce a delightful, delirious, dizzyingly delicious breakfast for the congregation and neighbors who want to join us."

Does that appeal to any of you reading this? If so, please call a couple of your cohorts to get a TEAM together and then call me to let me know, SOON, so we can advertise and look forward to it. It may be that there will be LOTS of energy bubbling up to do this, and that would be fantastic. If there is no energy, it won't happen. Plop.

Now, why would I write this? Because, as one of our new hymns says it, "*You are the seed that will grow a new sprout;*

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Calendar of Events

Wednesday (Feb. 11)

Bell Choir rehearsal—6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Missions Ministry Team—7:00 p.m., Perry Hall
Chancel Choir rehearsal—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Sunday (Feb. 15)

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Community Hour—immediately after worship, Perry Hall
Youth Group—6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Youth Room

Monday (Feb. 16)

Church offices closed in observance of Presidents' Day
SANDPOINTER (newsletter) deadline

Tuesday (Feb. 17)

Men's Bible Study—10:00 a.m., Fireside Room
Church Council—7:00 p.m., Fireside Room

Wednesday (Feb. 18)

Ash Wednesday Service—7:00 to 7:30 p.m., Chapel
Chancel Choir—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Sunday (Feb. 22)

Worship—10 a.m., Sanctuary
Community Hour—following worship service, Perry Hall
Lenten Enrichment Hours—Dr. B. will be using these 6 Sundays to take us through the 1989 Hymnal, cover to cover. Come & learn a lot, sing a little, & go away happy!

Tent City 3—dinner prep. @ 2 p.m., delivery & serving approximately 5 p.m.

Looking Ahead

Thursday (Feb. 26)

Blood Drive/Bone Marrow Sign-up—8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Perry Hall

Church Office Hours



Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon
1:00 to 4:30 p.m.
Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Thank
You!**

Concern for Neighbors Food Bank in Mountlake Terrace (one of our Melodies recipients) send their thanks for our support that allows them to help those in need in their community. “We still see hunger in our area although the number of families we are helping has decreased (approximately 7% over the past year). Family counts were about 160 to 180 per week last year and are now about 150 to 170 per week....Even though our client numbers are going down, our financial assistance funds never last past the first Tuesday of the month. We wish everyone at your church a very healthy and prosperous 2015 and again thanks for your support.”

Looking for Housing ...

A friend of Sue Haas is looking for affordable housing (about \$500 per month) to share in NE Seattle where she might be able to help out with pet sitting, housework, and/or some light caregiving. She has experience and references (both personal and professional). She also has experience and references for house sitting and would consider doing that for a minimum of one month. Please contact the church office if you would like more information.



Community Hour on Super Bowl Sunday
Left to right: Judy Miller, Jeff & Marsha Nemitz
(photo by Sue Haas)



Please pray in Memoriam for:

The Reverend Bruce Parker—former pastor at Sand Point Community UMC; services were held this past Saturday at University Temple UMC.

Tausend Dank! Vielen herzlichen Dank

To Les Martin and his colleagues for JS Bach's Solo Cantata "Ich habe genug" on Sunday, February 1st as we celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Thank you Emily Riesser (soprano), Jill Carlsen (recorder), Candice Chin & Ann Rackl (violin), Carolyn Wyman (viola), Terry Cook (cello), Elizabeth C.D. Brown (archlute) and Les Martin (harpsichord).

Congratulations to Kay Ferguson

One of Kay's poems has been selected to be published in a new anthology of poetry coming from Anguilla, *Where I See The Sun - Contemporary Poetry on Anguilla*. The House of Nehesi Publishers in Saint Martin has taken on this project and hopes to have the book released by mid-year.

Kay plans to be in Seattle late July/early August for her father's 90th birthday and will bring the book with her. If you are interested in the book, you may contact her at: kayferguson@ymail.com or anguillawriter@gmail.com.

Pastor's Perspectives (continued from page 2)

you're a star that will shine in the night; you are the yeast and a small grain of salt, a beacon to glow in the dark." (UMH 583, *You are the Seed*, verse one)

Either this tradition takes root in the congregation, or it doesn't. It isn't the minister's task to make it happen. If YOU want it, some of YOU will make it happen. Whether or not we eat pancakes together, Jesus will surely rise from the dead. It is, however, indicative of new life springing forth from the kitchen as well as the grave, if we do indeed, eat pancakes together EASTER morning. What say you? - With a spark of mischief, **Dr. B**



Blood Drive/Bone Marrow Registry/Gift Card Drive

(sponsored by View Ridge Elementary School
Sand Point Community UMC)

Thursday, February 26th

8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.—Perry Hall

Reserve your BLOOD DRIVE DONATION appointment online now—go to <https://schedule.psb.org/DonorPortal/GroupLanding.aspx?s=4132>

Please consider giving blood and/or coming by to learn about and signup for the National Bone Marrow Registry <http://bethematch.org/>. Also, please consider making a double impact by donating gift cards purchased via the View Ridge Scrip Program to cancer families in need at Seattle Children's Hospital...this is a great way to make a positive impact if you can't donate blood, and is a win-win for View Ridge and Seattle Children's!

Seattle is a world leader in the research and treatment of blood cancers, and is the birthplace of the lifesaving bone marrow transplant – your blood donations and participation in the bone marrow registry can make a huge difference to the many cancer patients who travel here in search of cutting-edge therapies, including many children. Leukemia is the #1 most common cancer in children, and kids at Seattle Children's rely on blood product donations to survive their treatments. By entering the bone marrow registry, you could also be a lifesaving match for a child or adult in desperate need of a bone marrow transplant. One small act can make a huge difference!

ORDER SCRIP GIFT CARDS to donate: <https://www.viewridgeschool.org/information/fundraising/otter-bucks/>

Questions, to Volunteer, or to donate snacks and baked goods: Contact Julie Guillot.

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Invitation to “Treehouse for Kids” Luncheon/Fundraiser

Tuesday, March 31, 12:00 noon to 1:30

At the Sheraton

Treehouse is a non-profit organization that supports the needs of foster children. “Treehouse for Kids” hosts an annual luncheon and fundraising event at the downtown Sheraton. This year it is on Tuesday, March 31, 2015 from noon to 1:30. Kathy and Doug Warnaca are table captains and would like to invite people from our church to share in this wonderful event. The lunch is complementary and quite good!

Sand Point Church has supported Treehouse financially through our Missions group. Treehouse helps foster kids by providing good quality (usually new) clothing, athletic gear, toys, books, school supplies and counseling. See below for the website: treehouseforkids.org.

Please join Kathy and Doug Warnaca in attending this inspirational and important time. It is a fundraiser so you will be asked to contribute, but it is not mandatory. You may want to come and learn about what the organization does and contribute later.

Please call Doug or Kathy. *(Please commit by 3/2/15)*

Blood Drive/Bone Marrow Registry *(continued from page 4)*

Wondering if you can donate blood? Some donors were turned away last year due to international travel (potential disease exposure) or low hematocrit levels. **To check your donation eligibility before signing up**, contact Puget Sound Blood Center at (206) 292-2543 or ClinicalProgram@psbc.org. If you had low hematocrit levels last year but want to donate, **boost your iron intake starting now** -- learn more at <http://www.psb.org/programs/iron.html>.