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

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SANDPOINTER

September 22, 2015

**Sand Point Community
United Methodist Church**
4710 NE 70th St., Seattle, WA 98115-6148
206.523.3040; sandpointcommunity.org
spcommunity@qwestoffice.net
Rev. Janelle Kurtz, Pastor

Homecoming Sunday



Above: Blessing of the Backpacks
Below: donated back to school supplies
Homecoming Photos by Sarah Ritchey

School Supplies

Thank you to all who contributed donations for our School Supplies Donation Drive! All of the supplies will go directly to students in need within our community with the blessing of our congregation for success in the upcoming school year!

A photograph of a chalkboard with a sign that reads "Back to School School Supply Donation Drive! Help out Kids in our Community!". Below the chalkboard is a blue plastic bin filled with various school supplies like markers, pencils, and erasers.

From Our Pastor ...

One of my favorite stories about prayer comes from the Jewish tradition. The story goes that a great Rabbi was leading a congregation in prayer. From the back of the synagogue came the voice of a young boy singing the Hebrew alphabet over and over. The Rabbi stopped the prayers to ask the boy what he was doing. The boy responded: "I can't read and I don't know the words to the prayer. I thought if I prayed all the letters that I know, then God can take them and arrange them into the right words." With true wisdom, the Rabbi agreed, telling the congregation that because of this boy's simple, but heartfelt prayer, surely all of their prayers have been heard.

This story always reminds me that prayer is more than something we say, it is a way of living in deep connection with God. In prayer we encounter our God who can rearrange our letters, give voice to our silence and make sense of our own jumbled words, thoughts and emotions. For ours is the God of the eloquent and the illiterate, alike! Today, let us all give thanks to God, for this story and for all who are still showing us how to pray with our whole lives.

If you are interested in learning more about ways to pray, I invite you to join us for our fall Enrichment Hour series. Sundays after worship, I will be leading a series on "Praying the Psalms." We will explore the Psalms to learn how to pray in various circumstances: including grief, thanksgiving, anger and joy. We will discover how the vast poetry, imagery, honesty and vulnerability of the Psalms can be used to enrich our own prayer lives. This will be a time for us to learn, share and pray together. I hope you will join us!

Save the dates! Sundays 11:30-12:30 on October 4, 11, 25; November 1, 8, 15 (Each session stands alone, so plan to join us even if you can't attend them all). **Child care will be provided.**

Let's keep on praying together, and the next time you're not sure what to say to God, just remember your ABCs and let God do the rest!

Peace,
Pastor Janelle

Our new Sand Point Community UMC pictorial directories have arrived! We ask that you only take one per household. The directories are labeled with each household in the upper right-hand corner of the directory cover. Please double check to make sure that you have the right name!

Church Calendar

Wednesday (Sept. 23)

Chancel Choir rehearsal—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Sunday (Sept. 27)

Worship Service—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Community Hour—after worship service, Perry Hall

Youth Choir—after worship, Sanctuary

Sand Point Songbirds—after worship, Sunday School Rm. 3

Worship team—11:30 a.m., Fireside Room

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

Wednesday (Sept. 30)

Bell Choir—6:30 p.m., Choir Room

Chancel Choir—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Thursday (Oct. 1)

Staff Parish Relations Comm.—7:00 p.m., Fireside Room

Sunday (Oct. 4)

Worship Service—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Sand Point Songbirds—after worship, Sunday School Rm. 3

Youth Choir—after worship—Sanctuary

Community Hour—following worship—Perry Hall

Enrichment Hour—11:30 a.m., Fireside Room

CROP Walk—begins at 1:00 p.m., Green Lake UMC

Youth Group—6:00 p.m., Youth Room

Monday (Oct. 5)

SANDPOINTER (newsletter) deadline

Tuesday (Oct. 6)

Men's Bible Study—10:00 a.m., Fireside Room

Wednesday (Oct. 7)

Chancel Choir—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Saturday (Oct. 10)

Meet & Greet—home of Abbots, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Looking Ahead

Tuesday (Oct. 20)

Church Council—7:00 p.m., Fireside Room

Sunday (Oct. 25)

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



October Birthdays

We apologize if we missed your birthday. Please call the church office with your information so we may include you next time.

Fellowship Dinner/Brunch Sign-ups

Deadline to sign-up is Sept. 27th

Please email or call Sue Haas to reserve your space in a group. There also is a the sign-up sheet in Perry Hall.

Can you recommend a reliable computer tech?

The church office is looking for references for reliable computer techs to call in the event that our wonderful volunteer is not available at the time of a computer crisis. If you have a recommendation to share, please call the church office at 206-523-3040.

New Contact Information



Thank you for Helping!

Thank you to all who helped, participated and volunteered their time to make this year's Homecoming Sunday a wonderful success with great food, fellowship, and fun! We extend special thanks to Joan & Phil Bohn, Berta Cohen, Ana & Bill Eagen, Judy & Olin Keller, Kevin Kurtz, Jan & Blair Paul, and Tom Tryzna.



World Communion Sunday

Special Offering

October 4, 2015

This Special Offering makes scholarships possible for graduate national and international students. Please give generously.

CROP Walk on Sun., Oct. 4



Each year Church World Service sponsors a walk to bring attention to the hunger, and need for water and shelter in our community and in the world. This year it will be held on October 4th, beginning at the Green Lake United Methodist Church at 1 p.m. and continuing around the lake. Our church has participated in this fundraising event for the past several years. This year we walk in solidarity with the thousands of refugees who are on foot looking for a safe place to rest. Please give generously. Berta Cohen and Meredith McVicar will be collecting money to deliver on the day of the walk.



UMW Luncheon —Tues., Oct. 8th

12:00 noon—Perry Hall

All women in the church community (and guests) are invited. Bring a sandwich. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

Meet & Greet

Saturday, October 10th—9:00 to 11 a.m.

Sign up for the Meet & Greet to get to know Pastor Janelle and her husband, Kevin, in a small group setting. Please call the office or Sylvia Abbott to RSVP. Bob & Sylvia Abbott are hosting this event their home where several stairs with handrail access the entrance.

- Sylvia Abbott

Shepherd Team Opportunities

The Shepherd Teams consist of 5 groups of volunteers that rotate. Every five months members of a team volunteer as Sunday Service greeters at the front and back doors, Communion stewards, liturgist, and host the Community Hour in Perry Hall by setting-up, serving coffee and tea, cleaning-up, and / or bringing refreshments. We are in the process of updating our team lists. This is an excellent time to join a team. There are plenty of folks happy to show you where supplies are kept and train you in running the dishwasher. Participating in the life of the church through the Shepherd Teams is a special way to meet, greet, and care for each other. Please call the church office (206-523-3040) to volunteer. Thank you, Sylvia Abbott



Time Capsule Found!

Over the summer a time capsule was unearthed during our renovation of the planter box at the church's back entrance.

Last week our children helped open the jar to discover that it was filled with writings by the 1998-1999 Sand Point Youth! Do you know someone who was involved? The time capsule contents will be on display in Perry Hall for all to see. Do you know someone who was involved? Our kids are inspired now to create a new time capsule! What should we include? *Contact Sarah Ritchey (spclittleones@gmail.com) to share information.*

Above: children examining contents of Time Capsule)

Homecoming Sunday Brunch



You are invited to participate in Sand Point's Music Program!

People of all ages are welcome to sing, play handbells, and offer special music at Sand Point. Church membership at SPUMC is not required to participate in the music program – feel free to invite interested friends and neighbors to join us.

Chancel Choir : rehearses Wed. evenings at 7:30 p.m.
sings each week at the 10:00 a.m. worship service

Handbell Choir: rehearses 2nd & 4th Wed. evenings at 6:30 p.m.
play about once per month at the 10 AM service

Sand Point Songbirds: meet weekly after worship for 15-20 min. in Sunday School room #3 to play recorder, drum, sing, and march about while learning basic musical techniques and, of course, having lots of fun! Children ages 5 and up are welcome to join us, and the choristers can join the group after the Youth Choir rehearsal each week. *(Led by Laura and Tasha Faber)*

Youth Choir: rehearses each Sunday in the Chancel right after the postlude for about 15 min. (for children in 3rd thru 8th grades) and sings at the 10 AM service when we are confident and prepared to offer one of our pieces.

Special Music

Do you sing or play an instrument? Please let me know if you would like to share your musical gifts at SPUMC.

Contact me if you would like to participate or if you have questions.

- Leslie Martin, Dir. of Music