

SANDPOINTER

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

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SANDPOINTER

January 16, 2018

**Sand Point Community
United Methodist Church**

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Rev. Janelle Kurtz, Pastor

**United Methodist Women's
Christmas High Tea: A Review**

The UMW Christmas High Tea, held on December 12 was a delightful event filled with good food, terrific entertainment, and great company! This beloved annual event is a moment for all the women of our Church to come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and the spirit of our Church; along with the fellowship that all the women bring to the table.



To the left: Marilynn Pray, Berta Cohen, and Kathy Warnaca (and the baby Jesus).

Below: Christmas Tea table scape



From the Pastor—



This week as I was putting away my Christmas decorations, I was disappointed to find that my new angel music box was broken. Her left hand is broken off at the elbow, the silver banner she is holding is cut short. I don't know how the break happened: a cat in attack mode, a curious toddler or simply careful hands that slipped. No matter: her hand is broken and nowhere to be found.

When I first saw this, I was so disappointed that I momentarily considered throwing her away or maybe replacing her with a new, after-Christmas clearance angel. But when the initial disappointment wore off, I remembered that when I put this angel out in the first place, I intentionally put her where a toddler could see or a cat jump or careful hands could jostle her. She

proclaims peace with her banner, holds the Holy Family in her skirt, and sings with the music of hope. That is something I wanted to be on eye level! I wanted eager hands to wind up the music to let the good news sing! I knew the risk of putting her where she was so accessible.

What I hadn't counted on was the unintended message she would teach me—broken arm and all! As I packed her away, I began to wonder how God knew the risk, too. God knew what could come of sending His Son to earth as a baby. God knew the risk of making Himself so accessible. God knew the risk of peace ushered in where there are far worse dangers than housecats and toddlers and well-meaning hands. And yet, there God is, anyways!

In looking at my angel, I marvel that while her hand is gone, her message of peace remains intact; unscathed by whatever else befell her! Maybe that's how it is with God's promise of peace. Ever intact, waiting to be proclaimed by whoever dares to come close, have a good look and take the angel's news in hand—careful or not.

My friends, I've changed my mind. I'm keeping this angel out all year long. And yes, she'll stay at eye level! May we all dare to take the promise of peace in hand, this year and always.

Peace, *Pastor Janelle*

This week

Thursday (*January 18*)

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

Sunday (*January 21*)

Sunday School—9:30-10:00 a.m.

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall

Looking Ahead

Wednesday (*January 24*)

Bell Choir—6:30 p.m., Choir Room

Chancel Choir—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Thursday (*January 25*)

PEO's Pie for Pearl Event—2:00-4:00 p.m., Perry Hall

Saturday (*January 27*)

Betty Kelley's Memorial—11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Sunday (*January 28*)

Sunday School—9:30-10:00 a.m.

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall

Tent City 3 Dinner—Dinner prep. @ 2 p.m., Lehman

Hall; delivery & serving approximately 5 p.m.

Monday (*January 29*)

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Wednesday (*January 31*)

Chancel Choir—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Thursday (*February 1*)

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

SPRC Meeting—7:00 p.m., Fireside Room

Pastoral Connection

To connect with Pastor Janelle you can reach her by phone (206-523-3040) or email (revjkurtz@gmail.com) Sunday-Thursday. She takes her days off on Fridays and Saturdays. Pastor Janelle is happy to schedule a time to meet with you in person. Appointments can be scheduled directly through Pastor Janelle or the Church Office.

A H.I.P. Thank You



Thank you to all who helped with donations to the Hunger Intervention Program (H.I.P.)!

With the donations that we collected, H.I.P. is able to provide weekend food bags to students at the surrounding North Seattle Public Schools, provide snacks at the Lake City branch library during Homework Help, and feed senior citizens at the Lake City community center.

With our efforts we have made a great impact on feeding this community!

If you are interested in helping H.I.P. in more ways, we are invited to help pack the weekend bags for students every 1st Thursday from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Please contact Sarah Ritchey for more information.

Help us *Usher* in the New Year!

Ushering is a fun way to contribute to Sunday services. Join the team of ushers and learn secrets of the church such as how to:

- unlock the building
- turn on the PA
- help with the offering
- turn off the PA
- lock the building
- and much more!

Joking aside, ushering is an important gift of service to the church. You'll be called one Sunday every six weeks or so. We'd particularly like to welcome any women who would like to join the group. We'll train you and get you into the loop pronto. Contact Pastor Janelle (revjkurtz@gmail.com / 206-523-3040) or Bruce Taylor.

Dear Church Family,

Last Tuesday night the Church Council adopted a proposed operating budget for 2018. The budget includes several new expenditures, including a much needed repair to our organ (about \$7,000), as well as increased funding for our missions work, improvements to our website, and a 2% cost of living increase in staff salaries. After several hours of work, we were able to get 97% of the way to a balanced budget, but we are short the last 3% of revenue needed for 2018 church operations.

The budget is based on projected revenues, including transfers from endowments, totaling \$381,201 and projected expenses totaling \$399,135. This means we are currently projecting an operating deficit of \$17,933. We believe strongly that the organ maintenance is critical, because if deferred it will only get more expensive. And we believe the investments in our missions and website are critical for accomplishing our mission and growing our church.

We are asking for your help in raising \$17,933 to balance our 2018 budget. If you haven't yet pledged, please fill out a 2018 pledge card. If you have already pledged, please consider increasing your pledge or consider making a one-time contribution.

Many thanks to each of you for your generous support of our church!

Yours in Christ,

Keith Moxon, Chair, Church Council

Steve Mullin, Chair, Finance

January Melodies of Compassion Water 1st International

Water 1st International's vision is to support local, on-the-ground organizations (partners in this work) with a proven track record of implementing effective, long-lasting water and sanitation projects—piped water systems, sanitary toilets, and hygiene education projects. So far: **\$16 million dollars raised. 2,297 projects completed, and 185,000 lives transformed.**

Please give generously so that we can really contribute to this most basic human need – clean water.

Christmas Eve by Candlelight

The beautiful sprinkling of powder snow did not stop 200 neighbors and church families from coming through the doors to enjoy our Candle Lighting Meditative Service. The Christ Candle shown brightly in the dark sanctuary and the beautiful voice of Laura Bohn filled the evening with the wonder of it all. Norman Rockwell could not have painted a more beautiful scene. Our guests also enjoyed the music presentation by Les, Laura and Yvonne and readings of Luke, Matthew and Isaiah by Anna McCausland Browning and daughter Pat Johnston. Pastor Janelle stayed steady at the door to greet our guests. The 6:00-7:00 p.m. service ended with the carol Silent Night and 200 votives candles quietly flickered in the darkness, carefully watched over by Alison and Virginia. Monetary gifts counted came to \$426.00.

Thanks to all who helped prepare and end this beloved ceremony of 2017. Director of Music Les Martin, Organist Yvonne Hoar, soprano Laura Bohn, pastor Janelle, the McCausland-Johnston family, Berta Cohen, Soona and Keith Moxon, Ron and Susan Vigil, Nicole Denny, Alison and Virginia Muir.

Oh yes, love came down at Christmas and so did the snow!

Peace, health and blessings to all of you in the New Year, Marilynn and Roland Pray- coordinators 2017.

Christmastide Thank You from the Missions Team



We delivered a big box of socks to Operation Nightwatch; and also sent a check to them for \$134.50 from the October Melodies of Compassion.

And our great response to the Missions Giving Tree yielded 4 big bags of gloves, mittens, scarves and hats; also a few other warm items of clothing, that have been delivered to Seattle Union Gospel Mission this past Sunday.

All our donations were met with many smiles and much appreciation!



February Parents Night Out

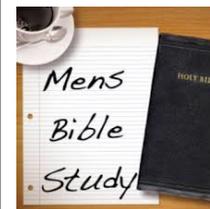
We are hosting another Parents' Night Out on Friday, February 16th from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m..

Parents Night Out is open for all children ages 0-12 years old. Staff and volunteers are present while the kids play games, create art projects, sing songs, eat dinner, and watch a short age-appropriate movie.

A suggested donation of \$5/child, \$10/family helps to offset the cost of dinner and supplies.

Please contact Sarah Ritchey if you would like to have your children participate!

We are additionally looking for help with set up, reading/playing with the kids, serving dinner, and clean up. Please let Sarah Ritchey - spclittleones@gmail.com or 206-523-3040—know if you are interested in volunteering.



Men's Bible Study

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
10:00 a.m.—Fireside Room

All men of the church are invited.

Women's Bible Study

1st & 3rd Thursdays
10:00 a.m.—Fireside Room

All women of the church are invited.

