

**SANDPOINTER**

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 178**



**SANDPOINTER**

**October 31, 2017**

**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**

**Thank you! Thank you!**

Because of your amazing generosity, we are getting to our \$200,000 goal for the capital campaign. As of October 23<sup>rd</sup>, your gifts to the capital campaign now total \$182,775 – over 92% of our fundraising goal! This expression of love and support for the future of our church is a blessing for all of the people and programs that depend on our church facilities. Our church is a physical home to all who seek spiritual growth and support, not just members of our church family but also the many families participating in the numerous positive, community-building programs and activities hosted at our church.

To date, new windows have been installed in Perry Hall and the kitchen. Re-roofing of the steep sanctuary roof and the flat roof of the office/chapel building will begin soon -- with an anticipated start date in the first half of November. Other major repairs (west exterior gable of Perry Hall and various soffit repairs) and renovation to provide a wheelchair-accessible restroom are in the planning and contractor bid stages.

Please help us reach our goal of \$200,000 by filling out a blue pledge form or sending a notice to the church office (phone or email) regarding your gift.

Many thanks to each of you whose past and future generosity will ensure the completion of these important projects.

**Daylight Savings Time**

Daylight Savings time ends on Sunday, November 5.  
**Remember to set your clocks back one hour  
on Saturday night, November 4!**

## **An update from the Pastor—**

Many of you recall that I am a ‘transplant.’ Originally from Ohio, I have been living and serving in ministry among you since July 2015. While I feel quite at home among you, I am still officially “on loan” from my home conference. That is, my ordination and membership are still held by the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. This doesn’t change my relationship with you as your pastor. But this ‘dual citizenship’ that I have been living in as a clergy person plays out in interesting, and at times, unexpected ways in my ministry.

I want to share with you that after prayerful discernment, (and waiting the required 2 years) I have begun the process of transferring my membership to the Pacific Northwest Conference. This process begins with a letter sent to the Bishop and our District Superintendent to request consideration of this transfer. Pending approval of this first step, the process continues with a verification of my credentials, an interview and additional reference letters. The process would conclude with a clergy vote at next year’s annual conference.

I wanted to share this decision and process with you because your support of me in these past two plus years has been a significant factor in my discernment process. You have welcomed me, stood by me in hard times, invested in my growth and surrounded me and my family with compassionate care. I see the decision to transfer my membership as a way of honoring and reciprocating the same commitment that you have shown to me. It is with a hopeful and grateful heart, that I share this first step with you!

And—because there’s an opportunity to tie this into our wider worship theme of Serving God with our WHOLE Selves—I invite you to consider what steps you are taking to respond to God’s lead. I’ve experienced it myself, now I invite you to celebrate: what commitments do you make to SPCUMC to honor the ways that this place, and these great people, have made an investment in your life? What does the next step in serving with our WHOLE selves look like in your life right now?

Wholly with you,

*Pastor Janelle*

## **This week**

### **Thursday** (*November 2*)

Women’s Bible Study—10:00 a.m., Fireside Room  
SPRC Meeting—7:00 p.m., Fireside Room

### **Sunday** (*November 5*)

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary  
Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall  
NE Seattle Equity & Social Justice Council Meeting—  
2:00-4:30 p.m., Magnuson Community Center

## **Looking Ahead**

### **Monday** (*November 6*)

SANDPOINTER deadline

### **Tuesday** (*November 7*)

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

### **Wednesday** (*November 8*)

Bell Choir—6:30 p.m., Choir Room  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

### **Friday** (*November 10*)

Church offices are closed in observance of Veterans Day

### **Sunday** (*November 12*)

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary  
Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall  
Enrichment Hour—11:30 a.m., Fireside Room

### **Tuesday** (*November 14*)

UMW Luncheon—12:00-2:00 p.m., Perry Hall

### **Wednesday** (*November 15*)

Charge Conference—7:00-8:00 p.m., Perry Hall

## **Pastoral Connection**

To connect with Pastor Janelle you can reach her by phone (206-523-3040) or email ([revjkurtz@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Save the Date!

Sunday, November, 19 we will conclude our current worship series: Serving God with our WHOLE Selves. We will recognize “Celebration of Commitments” Sunday on this day. (You might also know this day as “Pledge Sunday” or “Commitment Sunday.”) In the coming weeks, you will hear testimonies about the difference giving has made in people’s lives and how this beloved place has shaped hearts and minds. You are invited to consider how you can give with your WHOLE self in return. A stewardship letter and pledge cards will be mailed separately in the coming week.

As part of our celebration on November 19, our worship will include a choral cantata and the chance to present our commitments to God. After worship, we will rejoice in our shared fellowship with a potluck meal. So save the date and get ready to celebrate!

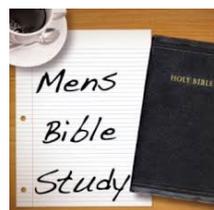
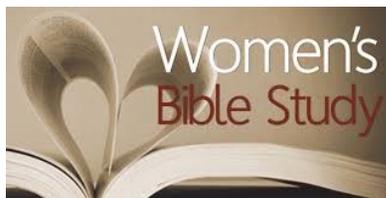
## Books and Food Donations Needed for Little Free Library & Little Free Pantry

Please consider donating children's books to the Little Free Library and items to the Little Free Pantry by picking up extras at the store, then placing them inside our Little Free Boxes or drop off items at our office. If you would like to provide a gift of money to support the work of The Little Free Boxes, please be sure to indicate that you would like your donation to go to our Little Free Pantry or Little Free Library.

## Women's Bible Study

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

All women of the church  
are invited.



## Men's Bible Study

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

All men of the church are invited.

## Melodies of Compassion November 2017 UMCOR for Puerto Rico



The November Melodies of Compassion will be donated to UMCOR Advance #901670, to aid in the recovery and humanitarian relief for the people of Puerto Rico, following Hurricane Maria.

The 2017 hurricane season caused Puerto Rico unprecedented levels of destruction, devastating the lives of millions of people and leaving hundreds of thousands homeless and displaced. The initial response has been slow for Puerto Rico as its food, fuel, and supplies are dependent on shipments from its air and sea ports, most of which have been severely damaged. The island’s ports and airports are slowly reopening though, allowing much-needed aid to make its way into Puerto Rico.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is in communication with the leaders of the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (MCPR), and is pleased to learn of their collaborative success in sending medical supplies and other life-sustaining goods to Puerto Rico. Currently, over 50 percent of the grocery stores are open on the island, and UMCOR is expediting an emergency grant for the MCPR to locally purchase needed supplies and food. Once purchased, food and supplies will be distributed through the MCPR’s distribution points.

“The United Methodist Church stands in solidarity with Puerto Rico and the people of the Caribbean,” said Thomas Kemper, general secretary of Global Ministries. “We can actively respond and be hope in Puerto Rico because of our partners and the generous people of the United Methodist Church.”

Please stand by this statement, and give generously to help those in Puerto Rico who are suffering.

**United Methodist Women Luncheon,  
Tuesday, Nov 14,  
12:00-2:00 pm, Perry Hall.**

Luncheon Program: Bring your personal stories about the history of our church to share. It could be your first memory here, or another special time. If you'd like to type or write up your story on a page or two, please email it to me--or give it to me--and we could post the stories on the bulletin board in Perry Hall. If you'd like, please include a photo of yourself, too. Let me know if you'd like me to take the photo. All women and their guests are invited. Please bring a sandwich. Coffee, tea, veggies, and dessert will be provided.

**Charge Conference  
2017**



Rev. Rich Lang (our District Superintendent) will join us on Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. to lead us in our annual charge conference. This year's charge conference is designed to focus on the importance of spiritual formation. Rev. Lang will lead us quickly through the votes and official business which must be conducted in this meeting, but intends to focus his time on talking with us about discipleship and faith formation. This meeting is open to everyone and all are invited to join us for this fruitful conversation.

**\*\*We will also have an opportunity to give out of our abundance during this time. A free will offering will be taken to support the District Necessitous Aid Fund. This fund supports pastors and their churches in a time of crisis. For example, this fund is currently providing salary support to two pastors who are out dealing with health crises so they can take that time to heal, without facing added financial strain. As someone whose postpartum depression took her \*this close\* to needing leave time herself, I am grateful I didn't need to use this fund but am glad it is there. I will be giving and invite you to join me\*\***

**SPRC NEWS OF NOTE**

This Sand Pointer highlights some of the work of Sarah Ritchey, the Director of Child, Youth and Family Ministries. One of Sarah's big responsibilities is to establish an integrated faith based curriculum for our children in Sunday School and Sunday services, but she has also been hard at work creating events and opportunities to link SPCUMC to families in the community. And since it is October (already!), Sarah is well underway with preparations for what has been a several years successful SPCUMC trick or treat event. On October 31 each year, SPCUMC joins the many businesses on 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE in having an open presence with décor and candies and games. The SPCUMC congregation is invited to participate with candy donations, or by dressing up and being part of the group handing out the candy and leading the games – or both. This is a fun way of seeing the good side of Halloween and connecting to the community surrounding SPCUMC. The creativity in both kids' and parents' costumes is astounding! Just coming by to people watch would warm your heart.

And the good buzz about the recent **Parent's Night Out (PNO)** is another event that Sarah has helped bring about to connect us to community. This event is offered four times a year, and is self-sustaining by the donations from participating families, and we are slowly seeing children, their parents and whole families connect with each other and with SPCUMC. Too, the number of volunteers from our congregation for the event is growing and that means we can host more families and children (the ratio used is 1:4).

PNO provides a break for parents, as well as an age appropriate, safe environment for kids (who are now making friends among themselves), and it gives an opportunity for interaction between those families as well as with volunteers from our congregation. Sarah reminds us that the children who come to this event are also the children who attend the schools in the area, and she and Pastor Janelle are reaching out to those schools for exploring opportunities of family-youth support.

Sarah herself has a quiet, can-do demeanor, but she is passionately dedicated to creating a spiritually rich environment for our children and growing our presence in the surrounding community.

Thank you, Sarah!