

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

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SANDPOINTER

September 19, 2017

**Sand Point Community
United Methodist Church**

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206-523-3040; sandpointcommunity.org
spcommunity@qwestoffice.net
Rev. Janelle Kurtz, Pastor

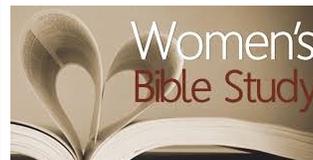
**Parents' Night Out
Friday, September 29
5:00-8:00 p.m.**



As summer comes to an end, we are looking ahead to the fall season and will be hosting a Parents' Night Out on Friday, September 29th from 5-8pm. Space is limited, so please reserve your child's spot by September 20th..

As always, this event is open for all children ages 0-12 years old and space is limited. Our staff and volunteers will be present while the kids play games, create autumn-inspired crafts, eat dinner, and watch a short age-appropriate movie. A suggested donation of \$5 per child / \$10 per family.

If you would like to help by volunteering during the event please contact Sarah Ritchey.



Women's Bible Study

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

All women of the church are invited.

From the pastor:

With the start of fall, we are kicking off another program year together. We are fresh off a fun summer and still flying high from the energy of our summer movie series. Did you know that every week we connected with at least one new family in the community? It was amazing to share this time together! The last night I was struck by a realization: we have shared a neighborhood with these families for years, many of them have even passed through our parking lot everyday on the way to school or play, and yet, this was the first time we *sat down together*.

It seems a simple thing, but woah! All I could think about was: where else are our neighbors sitting down together? Where are they gathering? What are they passionate about? What are the things that give them meaning to their lives? And how, how do we connect with that?

As a community of faithful, we have found something here in this place that connects with us. Worship. Service. Relationships. And we believe that the God of creation, the God of infinite love, is at the core of it all. We believe that it matters. That knowing God gives depth and meaning and an experience of life that we cannot have without God. That experience is more fully revealed the more we connect and sit down together: in this place, and in all the places where God's people gather.

This fall, as we resume the programs and groups that have connected us to God; as we take our familiar place in Bible studies, choir, luncheons, and Sunday School, let us be equally excited for the unfamiliar places where we will yet meet! Let us give thanks for the neighbors with whom we will yet gather!

Praise be to God!

Peace, *Pastor Janelle*

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.

This week

Thursday (September 21)

Women's Bible Study—10:00 a.m., Fireside Room
Rose Writing Group—7:00 p.m., Sue H.'s house

Sunday (September 24)

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall
Tent City 3 Dinner—Dinner prep. @ 2 p.m., Lehman Hall; delivery & serving approximately 5 p.m.

Looking Ahead

Monday (September 25)

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Wednesday (September 27)

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

Friday (September 29)

Parents' Night Out—5:00-8:00 p.m., Perry Hall

Sunday (October 1)

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall

Tuesday (October 3)

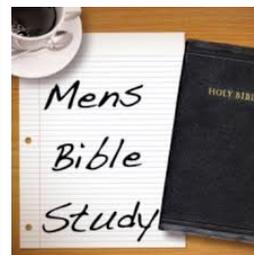
Men's Bible Study—10:00 a.m., Fireside Room

Wednesday (October 4)

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

Thursday (October 5)

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



Men's Bible Study

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

All men of the church are invited.

SPC PrayGround: Preparing a Place for All

You may have noticed some changes in the sanctuary. As we prepare our hearts for God, we also prepare our space with an intentional invitation for all. There is no doubt that Sand Point is a congregation with Christian hearts and a Wesleyan spirit. Let us imagine together our congregation as where we will be in faith and spirit as we expand our accessibility to those who yearn to be with God.

We have worked hard and are excited to share with you the new space within the sanctuary that we have created in an effort to provide another way for families with young children to experience church. Our PrayGround is a place set in the front of the sanctuary where children can experience Worship with age-appropriate soft toys, art materials, and books that help keep them engaged in Worship. We want our children to be able to see the musicians, the choir, the liturgist, and the pastor, and to feel engaged. We know that including children in church builds the foundation of their faith formation as a life-long learning experience.

It is important to us as a congregation to provide options for all families who come to Worship with us in whichever way they are most comfortable. We continue to staff the nursery during every Worship service for PreK and under and provide a Little Ones lesson during the sermon. Parents will always have the option to simply sit with their children in the pews as well. We have Children's Bulletins and Worship Kits for kids who need additional items to keep their attention in the pews.

Preparing space within the sanctuary for young families is what many other churches nationwide are also doing. Here are some links of how other churches have imagined their versions of a PrayGround.

[Interpreter Article about PrayGrounds](#)

[ABC News Report about PrayGrounds](#)

Photo courtesy of
Grace Lutheran of Apple Valley



Melodies of Compassion September 2017 Habitat for Humanity



September's Melodies of Compassion is Habitat for Humanity of Seattle-King County.

Habitat's vision is "a world where everyone has a decent place to live." Habitat for Humanity's role in realizing that vision is expressed in its **mission**: "Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope."

Knowing the mission cannot be accomplished alone, they build community by bringing people together and drawing upon the unique strengths of individuals and organizations. Collaboration stimulates innovation, enriches problem solving and celebrates inclusivity, thereby allowing Habitat to have a far-reaching and long-lasting impact.

The core values of Habitat for Humanity include listening to the members of our communities to understand their needs, and providing leadership to strengthen and improve lives. Individually and collectively, Habitat is dedicated to a just and equitable world. By respecting all people, the organization honors the inherent dignity of individuals and communities, treating others the way we ourselves would like to be treated.

United Methodist Women's Luncheon



The next United Methodist Women's Luncheon is Tuesday, October 10, from noon to 2:00 p.m., in Perry Hall. The program is Favorite Book Reports. Bring *one* favorite book you've read recently. Please bring a sandwich. Coffee, tea, veggies, and dessert will be provided as we celebrate October birthdays! Please RSVP to Sue Haas. Thanks!



Sunday School

Sunday School starts again on Rally Day, Sunday, September 17th at 9:30 a.m.!

It is going to be such a fabulous year filled with loads fun. We will have opportunities for sharing together in a faith journey where we will all have room to grow, discover strengths and passions, and deepen our love of God and connection with one another.

I will be developing our weekly Elementary and Jr High/High School lessons for us to prepare for Worship by examining the scripture used for the week's sermon and facilitate open discussions on how the message has meaning in their own lives and spiritual growth.

Our lead teachers this year will be Pastor Janelle and myself along with our wonderful volunteer co-teachers, some of whom you will remember from helping last year! There is still some slots that we need to fill with volunteers this fall. If you are interested in helping out or would like to know more, please let me know!

Junior High / High School (grades 6-12) meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Rec Room downstairs from the Fireside Room.

Elementary School (K-5) meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Sunday School classrooms downstairs off Perry Hall.

I am excited for our year together and look forward to discovering all the ways we can be a community together at Sand Point!

Sarah Ritchey
Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

Youth Helping with Tent City Meal Prep

As fall starts, just a reminder that every fourth Sunday of the month the youth are invited to be part of our **Tent City 3 dinner meal prep**. Please let Sarah Ritchey know if you or your youth will be joining us the next Tent City meal prep. We will need to know a week in advance how many of us will be able to help each month.

Junior high and high school students can earn up to 4 school-required volunteer hours a month with their participation.

If you have any questions or would like to know more information, please speak to Sarah Ritchey through the church office at 206-523-3040, or email at spclittleones@gmail.com.

Deeds to Two Crypts at Acacia Memorial Park

In May of 1997, SPCUMC was gifted two crypts in the Garden Court of Acacia Memorial Park. The gift was made by Ms. Marybelle Sincock. The Memorial and Endowment managers would consider the sale of these crypts for benefit of the capital fund drive.

These two crypts are side by side in section F of Garden Court. If purchased from Acacia, crypts in this section are currently priced at \$8,500 each.

Anyone interested in purchasing the deeds to the crypts may contact the church or Doug Warnaca and we can go look at them.



Rose Writing Group

The Rose Writing Group will start up again with a meeting September 21 at the home of Sue Haas from 7:00-9:00 p.m. At this time we have six active members. We'd love to work with others who want to complete books, family memoirs or other projects. If you have questions, please email Tom Trzyna.