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

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April 10, 2018

**Sand Point Community
United Methodist Church**

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

Save the Dates!

Sunday, April 15, 11:30-12:30: "After Church Fellowship Discussion"--Hosted by our SPRC. This will be a time to learn more about the upcoming pastoral transition and process our experiences together. Learn more in the "SPRC News of Note" column on page 5.

Saturday, April 28, 10:00 a.m.-Noon: Day of Service with Maple Leaf Lutheran, Wedgwood Presbyterian and Wedgwood Community Church. Planned service projects include working in the Meadowbrook Community Garden and Orchard and with North Helpline. Look for details and sign-up information in future bulletins, announcements and mid-week emails.

Parents' Night Out

We are hosting Parents' Night Out on Friday, April 20th 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 at spclittleones@gmail.com if you would like your children to participate!

From the Pastor—

Dear friends,

The news that the Bishop will be appointing me to Snohomish UMC in July was unexpected for all of us. I mentioned to several of you that I haven't really processed this news yet. I kept my eye on Holy Week and Easter preparations and did my best to compartmentalize the news. A big part of me is still trying this approach!

You see, I've wanted to compartmentalize because it's easier not to think about it. Not to think about you, my dear friends, who I will have to say good-bye to. Easier not to think about the future we were planning for that I'm going to miss. Easier not to think about all the ways I'm grateful to you for shaping me into the pastor and person who I am today. It's simply easier to try to hold the grief at bay as if it will magically resolve on its own in time. But it won't. I know that. And you remind me of the same.

Over these past few weeks many of you have openly shared your grief with me. You've expressed to me what I mean to you and how I helped you grow in faith. You've surrounded me in love with phone calls, cards, well wishes, hugs and words of encouragement at every turn. I am completely overwhelmed by it. I find myself totally humbled and speechless.

At a loss for words, I wonder how I will ever be able to respond in kind? All I want to do is to tell you how you have been the same for me. You have been a vessel for God's grace when I needed it most. You walked beside me through the darkness and loved me still on the other side. You have been a sharpening stone helping me hone the gifts God has given to me. Helping me name where God is at work in me and encouraging me to claim it. You have given me the greatest gift of trusting me—not only in leadership and vision, but with moments that are deeply sacred and beautiful. Moments that I still cling to on the days, like these days, when answering the call is hard.

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This week

Sunday (April 15)

Sunday School—9:30-10:00 a.m.

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary

Fellowship Discussion—11:30 a.m., Perry Hall

Monday (April 16)

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Tuesday (April 17)

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

Wednesday (April 18)

Chancel Choir—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Thursday (April 19)

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

Friday (April 20)

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

Looking Ahead

Sunday (April 22)

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.

Wednesday (April 25)

Bell Choir—6:30 p.m., Choir Room

Chancel Choir—7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Saturday (April 28)

Day of Service—10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., in our community, more details to follow.

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.



On Palm Sunday, the choir sang a setting of “Surely He Has Borne Our Grief”, composed for the Sand Point Choir by one of our bass singers, Dr. Frank Mitchell.

We are grateful to Frank for sharing his music with the choir and congregation!

Summer Day Camp

We are invited again this summer to connect with Maple Leaf Lutheran Church for a fun-filled week of Day Camp coming up this summer for ages K-5:

July 30 – August 3, 2018

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Cost: \$50/week (if registered before June 1st)

We hope you’ll register and share the information with your neighbors, friends and children’s classmates.

Registration forms are available in the office. Contact Sarah Ritchey with questions at spclittleones@gmail.com.

See you all this summer for fun, faith and fellowship!

Help us *Usher* in Spring!

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.

Pastor’s Message, continued from Page 2...

You have restored to me a sense of self, calling, purpose and confidence. And dear friends, I long for the same for you. It is my greatest hope that come July 1 you will be ready to receive your next pastor. That you will be ready to give abundantly of the same gifts that you offered to me. I know we both need to grieve first. I won’t rush that. And I won’t compartmentalize it, either. But friends, I will hope and pray for this all the same.

You know I have infinitely more to say to you and I will say it in the months ahead. For now, let me close with this reminder/commitment: I am your pastor until the day I’m not. I will continue to lead you and learn from you until our last day together. I will receive the grace you pour over me and I will respond with an outpouring of the same. I will feel the deep pain of this transition. For as so many have reminded me, it wouldn’t hurt if we weren’t about good things together. My friends, it does hurt. It hurts because you are not friends only in the rhetorical sense, but truly friends in life and spirit.

I am so grateful for you and for our time together, even as I grieve how short it is.

Peace, Pastor Janelle

April Melodies of Compassion ROOTS

April’s Melodies of Compassion supports ROOTS, a safe, emergency overnight shelter for young adults ages 18-25. Their mission is to: “build community and foster dignity through access to essential services and a safe place to sleep for young adults experiencing homelessness”.

Located in the University Temple UMC, ROOTS shelters up to 45 young adults a night. The services provided include: clean bedding; dinner and breakfast; showers; clothing; toiletries; on-site case management (Monday – Thursday) and referral to other support and transitional services; and supportive and nurturing relationships between staff, volunteers, and guests.

Please give generously this month in support of a great Seattle organization and our local young people!

Could you volunteer time to cover the church office when the Office Manager is away ?

In the past we've put out a call for volunteers for office coverage a few weeks before the Office Manager's vacation time, but that turns out to be rather hit or miss, and we'd like to have a more reliable system in place. The aim is to compile a list of five or six people who could be trained to cover the basic needs in the office when the office manager is on vacation, ill or temporarily away. This would assure keeping the office open during main business hours so that it accommodates those who may have need of access to or use of facilities. Such volunteer coverage hours are usually modified to provide presence for 3 or 4 hours on any given day. The work is limited to tasks such as answering the phone, directing calls as needed or taking messages, bringing in the mail, etc.

We want to create a set list of volunteers so that we can rotate and not burden any one person with the task, and it will (hopefully) make it easier to find a volunteer if others on the list might not be available. Once we have "the list," the office manager will do a "training" of the basics, and then work with those on the list to plan ahead for coverage during the office manager's time off/vacations.

SPC Rummage Sale!

The Annual Church Rummage Sale is Friday May 4th, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Saturday May 5th, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Items needed: kitchen and housewares; fiction books (adult and childrens); sporting goods (no old skis or boots); antiques and vintage items; jewelry; small appliances (working condition); linens and bedding; toys/puzzles; and artwork

Items that we CANNOT accept: large furniture (including beds); computers/printers/fax machines/old phones; exercise equipment; and adult clothing older than five years

Volunteers are needed for setting up, sorting and pricing for the week of April 29th. We will also need cashiers for the day of sale, and help with cleanup, starting at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday May 5th! If you have questions, please call Ngair Taylor.

SPRC News of Note

At our most recent SPRC meeting, we discussed how we would help move the church together through the next few months. It was a fulsome discussion that was thoughtful, punctuated with laughter, and good ideas for the way we are to go. I was reminded once again that I trust these people because they are working with me, and that this is a process we must share together. Pastor Janelle summed it up best in her closing prayer- we are going into the coming months with a *celebration of each other and our time together*. She meant this not only in regards to our committee, but also to us as a church family.

To that end of coming together as a church family, SPRC is hosting an after-service fellowship discussion on Sunday, April 15, from 11:30-12:30. During that time we will update on information from the District Superintendent and what we might expect in the near future. We are already heartened to hear from our DS, Rev Rich Lang, that the letters he has received from you have informed his advocacy on our behalf in these next steps. During this time, Pastor Janelle will be with us to help us process our experience of this transition so we don't get stuck in it and the hard emotions that it is raising.



Mark Your Calendars!

Sand Point Community Night at the Mariners!

When: Friday, June 15th at 7:10 p.m. against the Boston Red Sox.

Cost: \$13 per ticket (cash or checks made payable to Sand Point Community United Methodist Church).

Why: Come root on the Mariners with all of your friends from Sand Point Community United Methodist Church and watch a fireworks display after the game!

All ticket orders are due back to the church office by Friday, May 4th. Order forms are available at the church. Any questions contact Sarah Ritchey at spclittleones@gmail.com.

Go Mariners!