

SANDPOINTER

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

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August 7, 2018

**Sand Point Community
United Methodist Church**

4710 NE 70th St., Seattle, WA 98115-6148
206-523-3040; sandpointcommunity.org
spcommunity@qwestoffice.net
Rev. Nico Romeijn-Stout, Pastor

Sunday Meet and Greet with Pastor Nico

If you are not able to attend the other small group Meet and Greet gatherings with Pastor Nico, you have another chance! On Sunday, August 19, we will meet in the Fireside Room after the fellowship hour. Berta Cohen will lead the session with some "Getting to Know You" questions, and you'll also have a chance to ask questions and help Pastor Nico learn more about the folks in our church family.



We rejoice with the extended Moxon family, who celebrated the baptism of Lincoln Joseph Fain on Sunday, July 29—we warmly welcome Lincoln into our church family.

From the Pastor—

Then I saw a new heaven and a new hearth...and I saw the holy city...coming down out of heaven from God...And in the spirit God carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven from God...I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. (Portions of Revelation 21: 1-2, 10, 22).

I have a thick book on my bookshelf (one of the few unpacked) full of prayers in the Celtic tradition. The back of the book is devoted to two series of daily readings (one per day for two years), and in the second of these, the “Finan” series, the theme for July is “A City Without a Church” taken from the book by that title by Rev. Henry Drummond (d. 1897).

I was struck by Drummond pointing out that the vision of heaven here in Revelation is not a celestial plain, a tranquil garden, or a mountain top. This was a new idea in religious thought. It molds Christianity in profound ways. “Christianity is the religion of cities,” not simply in the sense of urban centers, but in the sense of belonging where the people are. It is the religion of “the streets, the market-places, and the working life of the world” (Drummond, 703).

Surrounded by a culture that is moving away from organized religion, where most of our neighbors either have no use for the churches they once knew or no interest in the Church they have heard about, how does this vision from Revelation lead our church in this city today?

“When Christianity shall take upon itself in full responsibility the burden and care of cities – the Kingdom of God will openly come on earth” (Henry Drummond, 704).

*Grace and Peace to you all,
Pastor Nico*

This week

Sunday (August 12)

Sunday School—9:30-10:00 a.m., Chapel

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall

Looking Ahead

Tuesday (August 14)

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

Sunday (August 19)

Sunday School—9:30-10:00 a.m., Chapel

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall.

Sunday (August 26)

Sunday School—9:30-10:00 a.m., Chapel

Worship—10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Youth Choir Practice—immed. after postlude, Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour—after Worship, Perry Hall.

Tent City 3 Dinner—Prep @ 2:00 p.m., Lehman Hall;

delivery & serving approximately 5:00 p.m.

Monday (August 27)

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August Melodies of Compassion Doctors Without Borders

Melodies of Compassion for August will be donated to Doctors Without Borders, an international medical humanitarian organization created by doctors and journalists in France in 1971. This organization received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999.

Today, Doctors Without Borders provides independent, impartial medical assistance in more than 60 countries to people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect, or catastrophe primarily due to armed conflict, epidemics, malnutrition, exclusion from health care, or natural disasters. They also use their voice to bring attention to neglected crises, to challenge inadequacies or abuses of the aid system, and to advocate for improved medical treatments and protocols. Please donate generously in August to this excellent organization.



August Birthdays

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

Annual Conference 2018 Report from the 145th Session

Sand Point Community UMC is one of 234 United Methodist Churches in the five geographic districts that make up the Pacific Northwest Conference. This year's Annual Conference was held in Puyallup from June 22nd through 24th.

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky spoke at the conference. Her theme was "Do this and you will live," which was a continuation of the theme from last year's conference. The theme is based on Luke 10:26-28. In this biblical passage, a lawyer asks Jesus, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus responds, "What is written in the law?...How do you read it?" The lawyer answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself." Bishop Stanovsky explained that in this passage Jesus is saying "whoever you love becomes your neighbor."

Bishop Stanovsky told conference attendees: "Whatever happens at General Conference in February of 2019, United Methodists in the Pacific Northwest will find a way for LGBTQ people to be fully a part of our little neighborhood in God's wide kingdom. Our walk with Jesus, for decades, has led us to this place." Like Bishop Stanovsky, I believe that we are all God's children. This past year, one of our women's Bible study questions was, "What is worship?" My personal answer to this question was and still is that church is a place where all of us (yellow, black and white; men and women; LGBTQ; young and old; educated and uneducated; disabled and able-bodied; rich and poor; Republicans and Democrats) can come together to call on and follow God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

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One of the Conference speakers, Rev. Dr. Brian Brown, talked about “The Anatomy of Peace: resolving the heart of conflict.” He said that almost every organization has conflicts, but resolving them depends on our willingness to change. Are our hearts at peace, where we see others as people? Or are our hearts at war, where we see others as objects? Rev. Brown encouraged us to get out of the pattern of seeing others as objects and to seek hearts of peace.

One of the new important events that the Conference established this year is the recognition of United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM). We will celebrate every second Sunday of September as UMVIM “Awareness Sunday.”

May God Bless each one of you!
Soona Moxon, Lay Leader



Parents' Night Out September 21st

We will be hosting Parents Night Out on Friday, September 21st, 5:00–8:00 p.m. Please contact Sarah Ritchey at 206-523-3040 or spclittleones@gmail.com if you would like to have your child participate or you would like to sign up for the evening to help volunteer!

Contacting Pastor Nico

Pastor Nico is available for appointments and happy to meet with you Sunday - Thursday. He can be reached by phone at the church (209-523-3040). His email address is nromeijnstout@gmail.com. Pastor Nico's set and available office hours are: Monday 11-2, Tuesday 11-3, Thursday 9-3, and other times by appointment. His Sabbath day is Friday.

Back to School Donation Drive

You may have noticed that stores are already advertising for Back-to-School Sales even though summer seems to have just started. However, parents struggling to make ends meet are already concerned about being able to send their kids back to school with the tools they need.

We are collecting school supply donations for kids in our neighborhood so they can go back to school with everything they need to succeed! Help them blend in with the kids whose parents have more money to spend on things like Emoji lunch bags and Minecraft backpacks.

Please consider purchasing some of the following supplies the next time you are out shopping and drop them off in the School Supply Donation Bin found in the Narthex by September 2nd.

Thank you so much for supporting our efforts!

- Backpacks and Lunch bags
- Reusable Water Bottles
- Crayola Classic Markers (24 set)
- Crayola Classic Crayons (10 or 24 count)
- Ticonderoga no. 2 Pencils (Large or standard pkgs)
- Erasers
- Scotch Tape
- Elmer's Glue sticks
- 2-pocket Folders
- Colored Pencils, box of 12 or 24
- Scissors
- Wide-Ruled Spiral Notebooks
- Composition Notebooks
- Ream of White Copy Paper
- Square Post-It Notes
- 3-ringed or D-ringed binder, 1 1/2 inch

