I have always been intrigued with that brief passage from the Book of Revelation, 21: 5. Make no mistake, I am not one to pull out short phrases or passages from the Bible in order to prove or disprove a certain position or belief that I have taken. But I have always found these few words to be quite comforting to me. Throughout my life I have often had the occasion to remember and utilize those words in times of difficulty. This would include moments of fear; or when something was ending like a job or position; or the end of a relationship; or the having to start over when something didn’t turn out the way I had planned or expected; or when something came to a natural end.

The idea of something “new” can be found throughout the Bible. In the Old Testament Psalm 149: 1 reads, “Sing to the Lord a new song.” The prophet Isaiah, in speaking for God, says, “For I am about to create new heavens, and a new earth” Isaiah 65: 17. The prophet Ezekiel writes in chapter 36, “A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you.” In the New Testament we have Jesus saying in the Gospel of John, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.” Even Paul writing about the Last Supper in 1 Corinthians 11: 25 has Jesus saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood.” And in 2 Corinthians 5: 17 Paul writes, “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new.”

“See, I am making all things new.”

In the more recent years I have had the opportunity to remind congregations that I have had the privilege to minister to & with that not only has God not deserted them in their time of need, but that during the challenging time of transition new possibilities, a new direction, a new outlook, and a new reality can begin to emerge, to take root, and to help move the congregation forward. We are seeing a lot of “new” here at ULC as we continue our journey together through this time of transition:

- “new” paint, ceiling, lighting & picture art in the narthex;
- “new” organist/accompanist for our worship/music program (Welcome Logan Hamilton!);
- “new” joint-ministry opportunities emerging with U Temple;
- “new” ‘fidget/wiggle’ area in the sanctuary for children during worship;
- “new” IT/media equipment, including a large screen, in the chapel area;
- “new” Choir, Sunday School, & Adult Education season;
- “new” hallway lighting throughout the building;
- “new” ‘Changing Station’ to soon be installed in the walk-in off the narthex;
- “new” Library renovation to begin the week of October 16.

“See, I am making all things new.”

A lot of exciting “new” is happening here at ULC, and more is on the way. I hope and pray that you will seek out new ways that you can be a part of these ministries, as well as be open to the new that God is placing in front you for your future.

I appreciate our ministry together. §

See you in church.

pr. tim
Change

Becoming an empty-nester has caused me to think a lot about change. As I have let go of some things I was involved in as a parent, I’m finding it hard to replace them. Mainly it has to do with the connections made with other parents who have become friends. But it is also about what to do with my time.

Here at ULC I’m finding that I have to let go of some things in order to do more urgent things. How do I let go of them? Do I let them die a peaceful death or do I try to keep them alive through someone else’s efforts.

Letting something go (regardless of what it is) is an act of faith. One that requires us to say “I don’t know what’s next, but I trust you, God, to show me.”

Mari Mitchell-Putnam
Editor
OCTOBER WORSHIP

October 1 - 17th Sunday of Pentecost - Latino Liturgy

October 8 - 18th Sunday of Pentecost - Latino Liturgy
Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 15 - 19th Sunday of Pentecost - Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting 1
Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

October 22 - 20th Sunday of Pentecost - Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting 1
Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

October 29 - Reformation Sunday - Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

ADULT FORUM

For most of October Adult Education committee will be doing a series of videos on Reformation Roots at 10:00 on Sunday morning.

On October 1 Rev. Dr. David Hahn, Living Local Facilitator for the NW WA Synod, will be speaking to us about the ELCA initiative that invites congregations to cultivate new relationships among their immediate neighbors & neighborhoods.

October 29, Reformation Sunday, the Education & Adult Education Committees will be presenting a special intergenerational event.

October 1 - “Living Local” with Rev. Dr. David Hahn
October 8 - Video “From Scholar to Provocateur”, facilitated by Ruth Munger
October 15 - Video “From Priest to Outlaw”, facilitated by Ruth Munger
October 22 - Video “From Heretic to Hero”, facilitated by John Gienapp
October 29 - Special intergenerational Reformation event

OCTOBER SPECIAL OFFERING

SHARE/WHEEL is the special offering for October. As many of you know we host a WHEEL shelter in our fellowship hall every night. What you may not know is that WHEEL does much more that help provide shelter to homeless women. WHEEL stands for Women’s Housing, Equality and Enhancement League and is a non-profit, non-hierarchical group of homeless and formerly homeless women working on ending homelessness for women. Since 1993 WHEEL has initiated many campaigns that have improved the lives of all women. Their efforts include pushing for longer hours and shelters and drop-in centers, holding yearly Homeless Women’s forums and community gatherings, establishing new shelter, day programs, meal projects and housing for women, including the County Winter Women’s Shelter, Meal of Fortune and Dorothy Day house.

Please help support the efforts of SHARE/WHEEL in providing safe places for people to sleep by donating what you can to this special offering in October. You can by placing your gift in the offering at ULC, making it out to ULC, and earmarking your check for SHARE/WHEEL. You gift is gratefully appreciated.
TRANSFORMATIVE

If change is constant then how do we seek to be submissive to God’s transformative spirit? The Quaker author Parker Palmer describes the human condition as being like a thin piece of paper with the cognitive being on one side while the spiritual is on the other. When we connect the beginning and the end it becomes a circle which is a fair representation of unity but if we limit our presence in the world to the cognitive side we are not living out our spiritual life or if we only have the spiritual side out we don’t develop a cognitive life. Palmer explains that in reality we twist the paper and connect the ends to look something like this.

This is known as a Möbius strip which for many represents infinity. Both sides interact in a way that allows the spirit to go out into the world and interact while returning to interact within the body. Our spirit and cognitive attributes intermingle forming and reforming as they interact with the world and with God. This imagery plays a trick on our minds but ultimately it reveals a holistic representation of our transformational life as a Christian. We are called to be of the spirit while still being in the world. As we work together developing faith formation opportunities for our children, youth, and young adults let’s always remember to look for ways that our whole being is interacting with the world in ways that represent God’s love and law!

John Grebe
Minister of Children, Youth & Young Adults

STEWARDSHIP 2017

For our Stewardship campaign this year, we will reflect upon the theme “Thru the Spirit We Work for the Good of All”. This theme serves to remind us that our many gifts are inspired by the Holy Spirit as a means to further God’s work here on earth. As part of this year’s Stewardship campaign, we will be sharing with our members, information on the congregation’s endowment fund. Pledges of time and talents will be made Sunday, November 12.

Jeff Berner,
Stewardship Committee
**U TEMPLE BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Twig Mills and Sharon Reuter represent ULC on the Building Committee at University Temple United Methodist Church (U Temple). While our congregation has yet to decide on co-locating with U Temple, we were invited to participate and contribute to shaping the building project planned for 15th Ave NE and NE 43rd St. Larry Erickson heads the committee, and other U Temple members are Dale Hoff, Monty Bossard, Graham Whitehouse & Rev. Pat Simpson. The first phase of the property development process is moving forward under Clint Pehrson, project architect, and Darel Grothaus, project manager.

The project team has expanded to include Meriwether Advisors, who will be identifying potential developers for the project, and HCMP legal team. All Committee members have signed a Confidentiality and Nondisclosure Agreement so specific items that could affect the viability of the project will not be disclosed. This is because certain project specifics (especially proprietary economic information) must remain confidential during marketing and later negotiations with potential development partners.

Zoning for the University District Urban Center has recently changed and is being closely analyzed to determine what will be possible to build on the site of the current education wing of U Temple. Members are becoming fluent in zoning terms: ask us about MUP, TDP and FAR!

Clint Pehrson will be leading focus groups with members of both ULC and U Temple in late September and early October to gather more input on what we need and hope to see included in a new facility.

The work currently underway will provide the background needed for ULC to make an informed decision in the spring of 2018.

Do not hesitate to reach out to Twig or Sharon for more information:
Twig Mills - twigmills@outlook.com or cell at 206-518-3658
Sharon Reuter – rjandshreuter@gmail.com or cell at 206-718-8891

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**COUNCIL REPORT**

The treasurer’s report shows our year-to-date pledged/freewill offering is down about $11,000. Salary and wages are on target and program expenses are under budget. While Pastor Tim is out of town Pastor Maynard Atik will fill in September 24 and Rev. Dr. David Hahn will preach and do a “Living Local” Adult Forum Oct. 1. After a period of discernment, the candidate selected for call to ULC withdrew from the process. Bishop Unti will bring new names to the Call Committee Oct. 11. There are now two Seattle police officers that, on their shift, make it a point to walk around our building and through the alley to deal with any issues related to unlawful behavior. Security continues to be a work in progress with other ideas being considered. Thus far Town Hall has gone very well. There are two October events scheduled. Reviewing the ULC membership roll is one of the responsibilities assigned the interim pastor. The purpose is to give the incoming pastor an accurate account of membership. That is something currently being worked on by Pastor Tim and Mari. Our theme for stewardship this year is “Through the Spirit We Work for the Good of All”. There will be stewardship temple talks in October and November. ULC is looking to fill a vacancy for chair of the Justice and Peace Committee. Ray Munger reviewed a proposal for becoming a “Sanctuary Congregation”. Look for more information about this at the advocacy table, in a future Spirit, and at an Adult Forum.

October 2017 *The Spirit*
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/2   Nona Taylor
10/11  Merle Overland
10/12  Lynn Bahrych
       Alicia Reuter
10/17  Kristi Maschhoff
10/21  Aslaug Haraldsdottir
10/23  Kristin Piepho
10/27  Ann Berner
10/28  Shane Maskalick
10/29  Erika Hill
       Katie Saltanovitz §

HOSPITALITY

Thank you to the people listed below who have been part of this ministry on Sunday mornings for the months of September:

Katie Saltanovitz
Craig Perkins
Michael & Ruth Ann Rouse
David & Van Ginger
Theresa Lehan-Anderson
Lynn Farrier §

OPEN LINK

What do you know?! Janice Gockel got a few ribbons for her baking skills at the Evergreen State Fair!

Blue Ribbon and Best Of Category
Toasted Hazelnut Bread
Yellow Layer Cake with Apricot frosting
Chocolate Layer Cake
Spice Bundt Cake (also Best of Cakes division & Best of Show in Senior Division)
Oatmeal cookies w/dried cranberries & chocolate chips
Double Ginger Molasses Squares
Refrigerator Cookies (Lime Meltaways)
Apple Pie
Peanut Brittle

Plus 4 other blue ribbons and one red ribbon. Janice says, “Thanks to Larry for washing LOTS of pans, bowls, measuring cups and spoons, spatulas . . . Of course he was also the chief taste tester & bowl licker!” Way to go, Janice! §

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

10/10  Bill & Mary Toepel
10/21  Frank & Sue Gregory §

LYONS EVENTS

Wednesdays After School: October they will be at Herkimer Coffee on Phinney Ridge. Come by after school, and be hanging out until 5:00pm.

High School Corn Maze is Sunday, October 8. They will be meeting at St John United at 4:00 p.m. and returning around 7:00 p.m. Please sign up for this event on their website so they have enough transportation. Cost is $15.

2018 National Youth Gathering in Houston sign ups are due October 15. More info on the LYONS website roaringlyons.org §
October

The temperature has dropped, we’ve seen a little rain, the leaves are starting to change color, and classes at UW start soon! Yep! It’s fall in Seattle.

Building Security

In September I, along with ULC Council members, met with the two police officers who patrol our area. We learned from them that they have made it their personal mission to come by every night and make sure our building is safe. That explains why we haven’t had any people on the front porch in the mornings or huge messes to clean up! They have people with outstanding warrants and have made several arrests. It appears, at least for the time being, that the majority of drug dealers and users have moved on from our property.

Nevertheless, when you are in the building, please keep your eyes open and report to the church office anything you see as unusual or unsafe. It takes all of us working together to ensure that all in our building are safe.

Monday Morning Maintenance

For years dedicated members of the congregation have meet on Monday mornings to do maintenance work around the building. Our current group is Jack Hatlen, Larry Gockel, Aslaug Haraldsdottir, and Lowell Knutson (coffee maker extraodinaire). I am extremely grateful for their dedication and work. But we do need more folks.

We have been talking about maybe changing things up a bit. Maybe having one Saturday a month for more folks to come and “do chores.” If you are interested in helping out once a month to do jobs such as clean out window wells, re-stripe the parking lot, replace light bulbs, replaces hinges on cupboard doors, put doorstops on several doors, paint handrails, etc., please let me know.

Time and Talent

Pledge Sunday is coming up in November. I would like you to start thinking now about how you fill out your pledge form and your Time and Talent form. Several of the things that keep this place moving are in the need of change. For example, putting the Worship Schedule together. This takes some time to do and usually is changed several time in the course of the quarter because of peoples commitments. Pastor Ron used to do the assignments and then it fell to me. I’ve tried to pass on some of it to others but it still isn’t working as well as I’d like.

What I’m asking is for you to do two things. One, think about agreeing to doing something you haven’t done before. Try moving yourself out of your comfort zone to something new. Two, think about ways that these worship tasks can be assigned. I’m going to ask my colleagues for their ideas as well. There has to be an easier way than what we are currently doing. Feel free to talk to me about this at any time.

Change

I am feeling overwhelmed with the amount of tasks that I do now. I know that things need to change. Change is hard and uncomfortable but is necessary for us, and The Church, to grow. I will probably be asking for more ideas and help in my journey to organize and accomplish these tasks. That may mean letting some of them go, and it will probably mean doing some of them very differently. At this moment, I don’t know. What I am asking from you, my sisters and brothers in Christ, is to hold me in prayer through this process.

In fact, hold us all in prayer because this doesn’t just need to happen with my tasks, but with The Church as a whole, as well. The Church needs to change to be revitalized and present for today or it will cease to be relevant in the world. My friends, the world needs The Church to be relevant now more than ever. God be with us as we continue Christ’s mission in the world to be just and merciful and to love our neighbor. §

Mari Mitchell-Putnam
Church Administrator
OCTOBER TOWN HALL EVENTS AT ULC

Tuesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.
Bhu Srinivasan.
“A 400-Year History of American Capitalism”

_Americana: A 400-Year History of American Capitalism_ tells a thrilling alternative history of America through the prism of one of the nation’s most dearly held values - capitalism. From the days of the Mayflower, America has been a place for people to dream, invent, build, and try and better themselves. Bhu Srinivasan, an accomplished media entrepreneur, takes a sweeping look at America through the inventions and industries that drove American history forward - telegraphs and televisions, airplanes and iPhones, radios and railroads, steel and Silicon Valley. Entertaining and eye-opening, _Americana_ is a bold new look at American history.

Tuesday, October 24, 7:30 p.m.
David Neiwert
“Alt America: The Rise of the Radical Right in the Age of Trump”

With a reported increase of racially motivated hate crimes and following the harrowing events of Charlottesville, VA, many of us are struggling to understand the rise of xenophobic extremists and white supremacists in our country. How have these groups evolved, and what factors have helped their ideals gain traction? Seattle-based investigative reporter David Neiwert brings two decades of research to help us understand the mindsets that shape American extremism.

Neiwert lends insight into the momentum that has been gathering behind these belief structures since the 1990’s, citing the influence of powerful right-wing media and growth of radical conservative activist groups. He charts the evolution of the mysterious “alt-right”—from a post-9/11 profusion of fresh conspiracy theorists to the virulent rebuke against the first black president by militant racists, up to a present-day examination of connections between Donald Trump and figures on the far right. Sobering and urgent, Neiwert’s expertise promises to provide crucial perspective about one of the most disturbing pieces of American society.

David Neiwert is a journalist and author and an acknowledged expert in American right-wing extremism. He has appeared on _Anderson Cooper 360, CNN Newsroom_, and _The Rachel Maddow Show_ and is the Managing Editor of the popular political blog _Crooks and Liars_.

MEALS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Volunteers needed for cooking a Sanctuary Meal once a month. This meal is provided for Sanctuary (UW Campus Ministry) and is a great way of supporting campus ministry.

Dates: 3rd Wednesday of each month.
Time: 5:30 p.m. prep for 7:00 p.m. Dinner
Location: Sanctuary (UW Campus Ministry) 4245 NE 19th Ave

For ULC members who are interested in signing up to help please contact John Grebe by email _snowshoe2day@hotmail.com_ or calling him (360) 920-5876.
TOTEM JOURNEY

On October 13, the Lummi Nation totem pole carvers will be stopping on their 2017 Totem Pole Journey to the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, for a night at University Congregational Church. On Oct. 14 from 1-4pm there will be a blessing and service at the church and all are welcome to come.

The Lummi people are asking for youth “warriors” to hold vigil on the night of the 13th. This is a huge honor for the Lummi to include us in a ritual that at one time had been stripped from them. If you are interested in joining this vigil please contact John Grebe for more details (snowshoe2day@hotmail.com).

Listen to Jewell Praying Wolf James share about these Healing Totem Poles at the following link or google “Lummi Nation Totem Pole Carvers” for a variety of articles and images.


CAPTURE YOUR VOICE AND SING

Ever wanted to perform with a men's singing group, but didn’t think you had the talent/ability/skills to pull it off? Or perhaps you sing in a choir and would like to improve your choral singing.

The SeaChordsmen will be providing free voices lessons for men (ages 15+), once a week for six weeks, beginning Tuesday, October 17 at 7:00 p.m. The program will teach participants to sing a cappella in a free and resonant tone. The skills learned in these lessons are important in singing Barbershop and are directly transferable to all other forms of choral singing. This instruction is available to all men regardless of singing ability or previous experience. The vocal instructor will be SeaChordsmen music director Ted Chamberlain, who is a nationally recognized master voice teacher. Men who complete the six-week course will be eligible to sing with the SeaChordsmen in our annual holiday show on December 9, 2017 at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church.

The lessons will be given in conjunction with the SeaChordsmen regular rehearsals at the Queen Anne Baptist Church, 2011 First Avenue N, Seattle. You may register forCYV&S at sing@seachordsmen.org. Can’t wait until October 17? Come to any Tuesday evening rehearsal.

For more information about the SeaChordsmen, please talk to Frank Gregory or Andy Kopser, or visit www.seachordsmen.org.
AN EVENING WITH RICK STEVES

Sunday, October 8
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
10021 NE 124th St., Kirkland

Join us for an evening with Rick Steves, host and producer of Travel with Rick Steves on NPR and Rick Steves’ Europe on PBS. He will speak about how travel and faith shape his politics and commitment to peace. In the second part of this multimedia program he will share the latest on travel in Europe. Reception with Rick is at 6:00 p.m. ($50, including talk); Talk by Rick Steves is at 7:00 p.m. (general admission: $15 in advance, $18 at door, $8 student/limited income).

Tickets available from Lutheran Peace Fellowship, or online at Brown Paper Tickets. Our thanks to Rick Steves for his generosity in donating the proceeds to Lutheran Peace Fellowship to further its efforts towards peace with justice in our troubled world. (see: www.lutheranpeace.org) For more information, contact Alice McCain, 360.328.0920 or Glen Gersmehl, LPF National Coordinator, at 206.349.2051 or lpf@ecunet.org §

ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM

On Sunday, October 29, join Bishop Kirby Unti and Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, for a Solemn Vespers on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 3:00 p.m. at St. James Cathedral (9th and Marion on First Hill). It was on October 31, 1517 that Martin Luther placed 95 these or propositions questioning the Church’s use of indulgences on the door of a church in Wittenberg, German. That act is considered the “flash point” for the Protestant Reformation. The 500th anniversary observance is an opportunity for Christians of many denominations to pray for each other; to heal old wounds; and to continue along the path of encounter and dialogue. All are welcome to this event. §

LOOKING BACK & CALLED FORWARD:
ELCA 500

Tuesday, October 31 in Washington, D.C. and live-streamed

Join ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton as she co-hosts a commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The event, which will include speakers and a service, will be at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Bishop Eaton will be joined by co-hosts Indiana-Kentucky Synod Bishop Bill Gafkjen, ELCA Vice President Bill Horne and Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod Bishop Dick Graham. The event is open to the public and will be available online via live-stream. All are invited to participate and honor the Reformation anniversary as we bear public witness to Christ, who frees us to love and serve our neighbor, and as we look to the future to which God is calling us. Please note this date on your calendar. More details will be available soon. §
THE LEGACY OF THE REFORMATION

The University Congregational UCC Lecture Series presents Bernard Brandon Scott & Jarmo Karkki in “The Legacy of the Reformation”, Friday, November 3 through Sunday November 5. Legend has it that Luther posted his 95 theses on the Wittenberg Castle Church door on October 31, 1517. In doing so, Luther proved that authority could be questioned, the Church could be changed, and truth could be understood historically. Five hundred years later, how does this legacy find meaning today?

Join Bernard Brandon Scott and Jarmo Tarkki for a weekend of lectures and conversation on this timely topic. Tickets can be purchased for some or all of these sessions through www.brownpapertickets.com. Sessions include:

- Friday 7:30 - 9 p.m.: The Legacy of the Reformation
- Saturday 9:30 - 10:30 am: The New Paul
- Saturday 11 am - noon: The Enduring Call of the Reformation
- Saturday 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.: Relating the Old Paul to the New Paul
- Saturday 3 - 4 p.m.: Discussion
- Sunday 9 - 9:45 a.m.: Session title TBD
- Sunday 10 a.m.: Worship service with Bernard Brand Scott offering the reflection.

Bernard Brandon Scott (Ph.D. Vanderbilt University) is the Darbeth Distinguished Professor Emeritus of New Testament at the Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Oklahoma. A charter member of the Jesus Seminar, he is the author of several books including The Real Paul (2015) and The Trouble with Resurrection (2010).

Jarmo Tarkki (Ph.D. University of Helsinki) is Senior Pastor of the Finnish Lutheran Church of California and Texas (ELCA), Adjunct Professor of Theology at California Lutheran University, Teaching Fellow in Philosophical Theology at the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, and the author of several books on the philosophy of religion.

OPEN DOOR MINISTRIES

Gala & Auction—25th Anniversary

The annual ODM auction is on November 4 at South Seattle Community College. This fun event is ODM’s primary fundraiser, allowing us to continue into our 26th year of ministry connecting the LGBTQ community with churches, and working with churches toward becoming Reconciling in Christ.

We invite you to register to attend the auction by visiting our website at www.opendoorelca.org (click on the Auction tab).

For those who cannot attend, we have several vacation packages available for purchase any time until November 4. We have partnered with a travel group to offer several vacation packages. The price includes an $800 tax-deductible contribution to Open Door Ministries. Information can be found on your church bulletin board or in the church office and on our website.

Thank you for your support of this ministry of the NW WA ELCA.
UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSION STATEMENT

• To live among God’s faithful people;

  • To hear God’s Word through the Spirit and share in the Lord’s Supper;

• To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed;

  • To serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus;

• To strive for justice and peace in all the earth

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please notify the church office at adminmari@universitylutheranseattle.org, or call 206-525-7074.