



NORMANDY PARK

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE TOWLINE

NPUCC's Monthly Newsletter

November 2025

19247—1st Ave S
Seattle, WA

(206) 824-1770

www.npucc.org

Pastor:

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Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday
11:45 am-2:30 pm

Wednesday
8:45 am-2:30 pm

Dear Siblings in Christ,

As I begin this letter, the sun is out, the fall colors abound on our church property, and I am feeling very grateful for you all. We just had a joyful and delicious community meal this week (if you have never been you really ought to join us in January!) and we had a good showing for our food drive with the Des Moines Area Food Bank. As a church, we like to feed people. And that is priority number one in our local community right now as people wonder if they will receive their SNAP benefits any time soon, as people lose their jobs, as costs just keep going up.

Our theme for stewardship season has been one of generosity and the “gift economy” which is something we already practice a lot of the time in church. Let me share a few words on this by Robin Wall Kimmerer, from her book *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*.

“In a serviceberry economy, I accept the gift from the tree and then spread that gift around, with a dish of berries to my neighbor, who makes a pie to share with his friend, who feels so wealthy in food and friendship that he volunteers at the food pantry. You know how it goes.

In contrast, if I were to buy a basket of berries in the market economy, the relationship ends with the exchange of money. Once I hand over my credit card, I have no further exchange with the clerk or store. We’re done. I own these berries and I can do with them as I’d like.”

Kimmerer is really good at putting it plain language— transactions do not lead to transformation. But giving, sharing, and generosity does. I want to be part of a world where the natural sharing of our time, talent and treasure leads to more volunteering at the food bank. I want to be part of a community where people believe it matters when we are of service to our

neighbors. Church is a place where we can practice this and it lines up really well of Jesus' teaching of loving our neighbors and tangibly showing up for them. As we enter into this month of thanksgiving, as we decide how much we are going to pledge to the church this year, think about how reciprocity and generosity become a lived experience in your life. How does the Holy Spirit guide you to be a generous person? How can you be of service?

Be sure to spend some time in the pages of this newsletter, and be sure to note that Advent begins on Sunday, November 30th. We will have a series of Christmas Cantatas with the choir beginning that day and also we'll kick off Advent with an Advent workshop after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

In Gratitude,



November Calendar of Events

ONLINE: *invitations/directions for accessing these events will be shared via email:*

- Sunday Worship Services: 10 am
- Church Council meeting: Tuesday, November 11, 7 pm
- Bibles & Brews: Friday, November 7 & 21, 7 pm

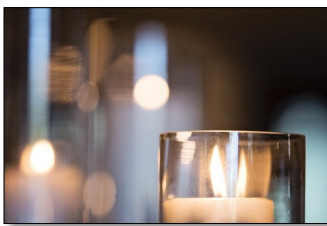
IN-PERSON:

- Sunday Worship Services: 10 am, Sanctuary
- Youth Create Handmade Gift Tags: Sunday, November 2
- Lunch Bunch: Wednesday, November 5, 11:30 am, Triumph Valley
- Stewardship Sunday & Potluck: Sunday, November 9
- Youth Sell Handmade Gift Tags: Sundays, November 9, 16, & 23, 2nd hour
- Fall Book Read—Learning to Walk in the Dark: Tuesday, November 11, 1 pm, Fireside Rm
- NPUCC Annual Budget Meeting: Sunday, November 16
- Enneagram: Wednesday, November 19, 1 pm, Fireside Room
- Mission Mile: Friday, November 21, 5—10 pm, Fellowship Hall
- Knit & Crochet Circle: Sunday, November 23, 2nd hour, Library
- Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: Wednesday, November 26, 7:00 pm, NPUCC
- Buy Mary's Place Gifts: Sunday, November 30, Before Worship, Fred Meyer

We encourage you to wear a mask if you have a cold or cough. If you have symptoms or do not feel well, please stay home and join us on Zoom. Masks are available at church if needed. Thank You!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 10 AM

On Sunday, November 2, we will be remembering and celebrating those from NPUCC that have died this past year. We will also have candle lighting after communion as a way to remember and celebrate the loved ones & pets who have passed on. We invite you to bring a photo of your loved one and/or pet to place on the table as we commemorate those who have passed away.



CHURCH HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Last year's holiday craft table was so successful - it's back! All proceeds benefit our general fund, and also offer a chance to see the many talents of our church family.



Come shop Sunday, 11/2! You'll find notecards from 3 folks, hand-sewn holiday items and tablecloths, pottery and stained glass.

Payment can be cash, checks, or access a QR code to pay with Zelle.

*Part of "Serviceberry", our theme for stewardship season, is sharing and savoring bounty.
This fits perfectly!*

MARY'S PLACE GIVING TREE AND GIFT TAGS



Thank you to Jeni W and Ian for leading this very important annual Christmas activity!

See schedule below:

- ♥ **Sunday, 11/2** – children/youth will create additional handmade gift tags
- ♥ **Sundays, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23** –
 - giving tree with gift card tags for Mary's Place teens and adults will be put up in the center of the narthex; once you pick a gift card tag, you can turn it and the money over to the children/youth and they will do your shopping for you;
 - our children/youth will sell handmade gift tags during coffee hour
- ♥ **Sunday, 11/30** – parents will take our children/youth shopping at Fred Meyer to purchase gifts for the Mary's Place children ages 0-12 and gift cards for the teens/adults

Gifts will be taken by Lynn to the Mary's Place warehouse by Friday, 12/14

ADVENT WORKSHOP: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Following Worship on Sunday, December 7th, all are welcome to pick up Advent devotionals and Advent calendars, as well make button ornaments. Cookies, coffee, and tea will also be served.



SPEAKING OF BUTTONS... Do you have a button jar? Would you like to donate some or all of those buttons to NPUCC so members can make button ornaments at this year's Advent Workshop? If so, please bring to church or drop off at the church office! Thanks! Any questions, see Lynn.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY & POTLUCK, NOVEMBER 9



“All flourishing is mutual.”

- Robin Wall Kimmerer,

The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World



It’s that time of year again for us all to consider what gifts we can pledge to NPUCC for the upcoming year. Come to worship and have your pledge card consecrated, then stay after worship for a potluck meal!

CONSIDER YOUR PLEDGE AS A PERCENT OF YOUR MONTHLY INCOME.

Annual Income	Monthly Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	10%
20,000	1,667	33	50	67	83	167
25,000	2,083	42	63	83	104	208
30,000	2,500	50	75	100	125	250
35,000	2,917	58	88	117	146	292
40,000	3,333	67	100	133	167	333
45,000	3,750	75	113	150	188	375
50,000	4,167	83	125	167	208	417
60,000	5,000	100	150	200	250	500
75,000	6,250	125	188	250	313	625
100,000	8,333	167	250	333	417	833
125,000	10,417	208	313	417	521	1042
150,000	12,500	250	375	500	625	1250
200,000	16,667	333	500	667	833	1667

On Average, Americans give 2% of their income to charity. Giving even 1% more of annual income to charity would be transformative for NPUCC and other congregations doing good in our community!

NPUCC ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING, NOVEMBER 16, 10 AM

Join us on Sunday, November 16, during worship to discuss and vote on our budget for the 2026 budget year. A copy of the proposed budget will be emailed out before the meeting. Proxy ballots are available in the Church Office or by asking Moderator, Stacie Latimer.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 7:00 PM, NPUCC

Pastor Amy is participating with area interfaith clergy for an annual Interfaith Prayer and Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 26 and all are welcome! NPUCC is hosting this year! Please bring cash or shelf-stable food donation for the Des Moines Area Food Bank.



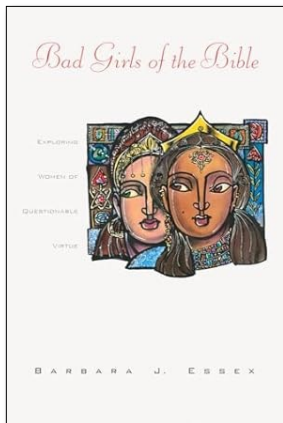
LUNCH BUNCH - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 @ 11:30 AM AT TRIUMPH VALLEY

Barbara will be hosting our next luncheon at Triumph Valley (Chinese), 3750 E Valley Rd, Renton, WA 98057. It's east across the valley and then turn left on East Vally Rd.



BIBLES & BREWS—FRIDAYS, NOVEMBER 7 & 21 @ 7 PM

We continue the study of Bad Girls of the



Bible by Barbara Essex by Zoom only. On the 7th, we will be exploring Chapter 9 - "Gomer: Vixen or Victim?" (pages 75 – 84) and then on the 21st we will be exploring Chapter 10 - "Herodias: Heartless or Hurt?" (pages 85 – 92).

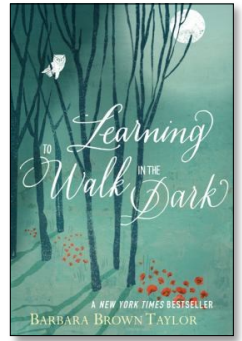
MISSION MILE – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 5 - 10 PM

Come and join Bob in racing slot cars in the Fellowship Hall. Fun is had by all! Looking ahead to December, racing will be on the 19th.



FALL BOOK READ – LEARNING TO WALK IN THE DARK BY BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR

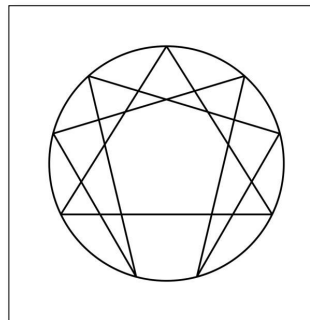
This fall we are reading Learning to Walk in the Dark by Barbara Brown Taylor, which "Offers advice for finding spirituality in times of darkness, questioning the traditional association of darkness with evil and danger, and suggesting that being in the dark may lead to greater spiritual growth."



Our third meet up will be on **Tuesday, November 11 at 1 pm in the Fireside Room** when we will watch a video of Matthew Fox as he talks about the Dark Night of the Soul and St. John of the Cross followed by a discussion.

ENNEAGRAM – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 @ 1 PM, FIRESIDE ROOM

At this meet up, we will finish our study using Suzanne Stabile's book The Path Between Us: An Enneagram Journey to Healthy Relationships by discussing 7s – IT'S ALL

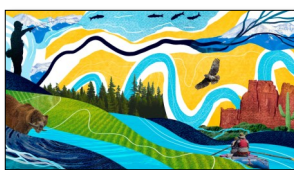


GOOD (pages 165-182). Come early and take a walk around the labyrinth to calm your mind and settle in for our talk.

We will not meet in December but will be back at it in January with Letting Go, Finding You: Uncover Your Truest Self through the Enneagram and Contemplation by Hunter Mobley. It is not available at the King County library. On Amazon, a new book is \$16.24 plus tax and there are also a couple of used books for \$15.43 plus tax. Let Lynn know if you want her to purchase a book for you – designate new or used.

TOGETHER, FOR THE RIVERS WE LOVE

From salmon runs to sacred waters, rivers in the Western U.S. and Canada connect generations.



Discover how Indigenous leadership and local action are restoring these living systems—one watershed at a time. Explore the map of river renewal by clicking [HERE](#).

DIRECT DONATIONS TO NPUCC CAUSES

To have a better idea of how much we at NPUCC are giving when we have special donations like our month to donate to Hospitality House or Des Moines Area Food Bank, if you would let Lynn, the NPUCC financial secretary, know to whom and how much when you donate directly, it would be greatly appreciated.

OUR NPUCC LABYRINTH



Our labyrinth was built and dedicated back in 2014 in loving memory of Marty Kercher (Lynn's mom) and Bill Lewis and

now a plaque has been installed at its entrance. Also, enjoy the two new pots that Alice and Lynn filled with joyful fall colors as you enter our newly re-finished labyrinth! Thank you to Bob for bringing those pots and installing the plaque!

EGG CARTONS



If you didn't already know, I have four pet chicks - Annie, Shoelace, Tulip, and Ziggy. They haven't started laying eggs yet but probably in the spring when the days get longer. If you have egg cartons that you could give me, I would sincerely appreciate it because although I wouldn't be selling eggs, I will be giving them away to neighbors, friends, and church members. Thank you, Lynn

JOIN OUR NEWLY FORMED KNIT AND CROCHET CIRCLE

After having our first meet up, interest has been shown in continuing to meet together to learn to knit and crochet and also to work on projects already started, so the plan is to continue to meet up on a regular basis after worship in the library.

Our next meet up will be Sunday, November 23rd. Please come and work on one of the scarfs that have been started or pull out your half-way completed project and join in on the conversation and fellowship.

HYGIENE & PERIOD PACKS

Do you use that toothbrush or toothpaste that you get at the dentist office? Or how about that shampoo and soap from traveling? See a great sale or closeout at the drug store? This is an on-going project, so we always welcome donations... see list below.

- Toothbrush – individually packaged
- Toothpaste - travel size
- Hand sanitizer - 2 oz or single-use
- Deodorant - travel size
- Shampoo / conditioner - travel size
- Soap- travel size
- Sanitary napkins – Always brand, size 2, ultra-thin, long super with wings, individually wrapped (or similar)
- Panty liners, individually wrapped
- Flushable wipes – travel size

November Birthdays

Marcie McPherson	11/5
Susan Sasis	11/7
CB Stack	11/7
Michael Janke	11/11
Ruben Sasis	11/14
Mathais Sasis	11/22
Nancy Knudsen	11/26
Ben Pangelinan	11/30

November Anniversaries

Cathy & Roy Brewer	11/11
Ruth Bishop & Fred Hutchinson	11/21

***If you don't see your November birthday or anniversary
on this list and would like to be included,
please contact the church office at
office@npucc.org or 206-824-1770***