



THE TOWLINE



From Psalm 19 "Heaven is declaring God's glory; the sky is proclaiming God's handiwork."

**March
2024**



**Normandy Park
United Church
of Christ**

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Seattle, WA

(206) 824-1770

www.npucc.org

Pastor:

Rev. Amy Hitchens
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**Music Accompanist and
Choir Director:**

Cindy Dow
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Office Manager:

Weronika Holmes
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Office Hours:

9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday – Friday
(subject to change)

Dear Members and Friends of Normandy Park UCC,

If you haven't heard, Easter is early this year. It seems like shortly after we turn the clocks forward it will suddenly be Holy Week and then Easter. Our theme for Lent has been one of Rooted Faith—finding ways to be connected and grounded in God's good Creation. We also lament all the ways in which God's creation has not been honored, respected, or cared for by our kin.

There are various ways for us all to reconnect with the earth—whether it is taking time to walk the Labyrinth on our property, letting your bare toes touch the moss in your backyard, or looking for eagles overhead and admiring the fleeting winter sunsets that delight us whenever we don't have a grey dusk. We are so blessed in this region—for so many things—but the gift of landscape shaped by water and mountain is probably one of the biggest blessings we have.

If you are itching to get out in nature sooner than later, and have some pruning tools, the Facilities team would love to have you join them for a morning work party on March 16. And if you are daydreaming about a nice spring walk, save the date for Church World Service's annual CROP walk down to the Des Moines Marina on the first Sunday afternoon in May.

Speaking of Holy Week and Easter--Yes, we will have palms for Palm Sunday on March 17th. Yes, we will have a Maundy Thursday service with communion this year, at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, March 21 (which is also the International Day of Forests). Shannon is going to offer a Good Friday Bible Study the following evening on Zoom. You don't have to be in the current Bible study to attend as we will be examining the verses in the gospel surrounding Jesus' death. Holy Saturday we will be preparing the Easter Cross with flowers again this year and on Sunday, we will have a Resurrection Celebration! I hope to see you all there, and/or I hope you can join us on zoom.

Blessed are you who wait upon the Lord in anticipation of this Holy Season. Blessed are you who remember our siblings in the Abrahamic faith—our Muslim friends who will soon be entering into Ramadan on March 10, and our Jewish friends who will celebrate Passover in April. Blessed are you who wait upon the Lord!

In Hope,



March Calendar of Events

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

- Sunday Worship Services: 10:00 am
- Communion: Sunday, March 3rd, 10:00 am
- Church Council meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 7:00 pm
- Bibles & Brews: Fridays, March 1st and 15, 7:00 pm

IN-PERSON: we encourage wearing a mask and practicing reasonable physical distancing to keep vulnerable people safe:

- Sunday Worship Services: 10:00 am, Sanctuary
- Communion: Sunday, March 3rd, 10:00 am
- Sunday School: youth are dismissed to attend class during Worship, except on Communion Sundays and special occasions
- Parish Care Committee meeting: Wednesday, March 13, 1:00 pm, Fireside Room
- Guest speaker from Amy Johnson Minister for Sexuality Education and Justice: Sunday, March 10th, 10:00 am, Sanctuary
- Lenten Soup Lunches: Wednesdays, March 6-March 20, 12:00 pm
- Palm Sunday, March 17th
- Maundy Thursday, Thursday, March 28th at 6:00 p.m.

LENTEN SOUP LUNCHES

Wednesdays, March 6, March 13, March 20
12:00 – 1:15 pm



During Lent we will continue to meet in our Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays for a soup lunch and discussion primarily using the book Rooted Faith: Practices for Living Well on a Fragile Planet. It's a new publication by a Mennonite Pastor who lives and works in Ohio. Pastor Amy finds

that she brings many concepts and ideas that we have been thinking about as individuals and puts them all together in this book. Pastor Amy also recommends Becoming Rooted: One Hundred Days of Reconnecting with Sacred Earth a devotional by Cherokee writer Rev. Dr. Randy Woodley and Nature's Best Hope by Douglas W. Tallamy. Having the books isn't required but if you would like Lynn to purchase any of the books for you, let her know. Rooted Faith is not at the KC library but the other two are. Each church committee will take a turn at hosting.

Week Three/March 6:
Lament and Creation

Week Four/March 13:
Reconnecting with the Earth, our Bodies, and the Holy

Week Five/March 20:
A New Heaven and a New Earth

OUTDOOR WORK PARTY

SATURDAY 3/16 9 AM – NOON

Bring your gloves and tools to join others in a work party to clean up our grounds before Easter. Hopefully, we will have a truck and/or trailer for removing waste. Enjoy coffee and snacks to give you energy to get back home so you can take a nap afterwards.



Holy Week



PALM SUNDAY ~ March 17th

Join us in person or on Zoom at 10 am.

MAUNDY THURSDAY ~ March 28st

The service with communion will be at 6 pm in the Sanctuary, in person only.

GOOD FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY ~March 29th

Via ZOOM details will be send via e-mail

HOLY SATURDAY~ March 30th

Decorating cross with flowers, time TBD

EASTER ~ March 31st

Resurrection Celebration -join us in person or on Zoom at 10 am.

Easter Azaleas

NPUCC has purchased 12 azaleas to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to purchase one to take home when the service is over, please let Weronika or Belinda know ASAP – first come, first served! (there will be sign up sheet in the office) They are \$15 each and you may pay by check, cash, Zelle or PayPal. Thank you!





INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT <3

On March 17th after church youth and members and friends of the church are invited to make hygiene kits for teenagers at TYEE and MARITIME HIGHSCHOOLS. We will be sewing pouches and stuffing them with needed items. Lunch will be provided.



HOSPITALITY HOUSE

HOSPITALITY HOUSE - SPRING FLING
SATURDAY 3/23 @ 6:15 PM

Tickets are on sale now for the Spring Fling, Saturday, March 23, 6:15 pm St. Francis of Assisi Church, Burien by clicking [HERE](#). The online auction will not take place at the same time as the live event this year. It will run from March 24 to March 31.

Additionally, HH is in need of items to auction off. "Smaller ticket" items for the silent auction or "larger ticket" items for the live auction. For the live auction we could use tickets to events or experiences, trips or timeshare stays, etc. And, finally, does anyone want to make a dessert for the Dessert Dash? Contact Connie if you have items to donate or wish to make a dessert.



Thank you everyone for your generous donations. \$557, 37 food items, 6 non food items, 40 brown grocery sacks, a bag of heavy plastic bags, and a bag of empty egg cartons

were delivered to the Des Moines Area Food Bank.



We will not be having Lunch Bunch during March. Instead, join us for Lenten Soup Lunches on Wednesdays, March 6, March 13, March 20, 12:00-1:15 pm.

Sunday School continues with the WHO IS GOD? – Engaging The Mystery” from the “Generation Why” curriculum. On the Sundays that Pastor Amy is off, we’ll use the “Simple Sundays” curriculum because they can be used with little or no preparation. Please let Lynn know which Sundays you are available to teach or help.



Bibles & Brews will meet via Zoom only on Fridays, March 1st and 15th at 7 pm to continue our study/discuss from Exodus and Leviticus for Everyone by John Goldingay. On March 29, also at 7 pm, Shannon is planning a Good Friday discussion.



VOTE FOR “CLIMATE HOPE” ART CONTEST

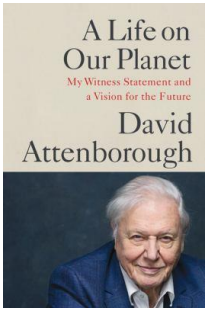
To give our children and youth a voice this election season (while also reminding adults of their responsibility for the next generation when they vote), the UCC is conducting a Vote for Climate Hope Art Contest. UCC children and youth are invited to draw, paint, or color about the world and the environment in which they want to live. Art submissions can be made from March 1 to April 16.



Click [HERE](#) to register now to receive a printable art contest template, updates, and more!

Remember to spring forward one hour before you go to bed on March 9th! We want to see you in church on Sunday, March 10th.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



[A Life on Our Planet, My Witness Statement and a Vision for the Future](#) by David Attenborough c. 2020 recommended by Lynn
As a young man, Attenborough felt he was out there in the wild, experiencing the untouched natural world. But it was an illusion. The tragedy of our time has been happening all around us, barely noticeable from day to day: the loss of our planet's wild places, its biodiversity. Here he shares his witness statement from a lifetime of wisdom. And he offers a hopeful vision for the future: how we can work to restore the wonderful world we inherited.

Do you have a social or environmental justice book that you've read and would like to recommend to others? Send its name to Lynn and she'll include it in the next Towline.

CROP HUNGER WALK MAY 5, 2024 @ 1:15 PM



The Normandy Park UCC team is participating in the 2024 Des Moines/Highline CROP Hunger Walk to support CWS and help families who are struggling with hunger.

You are welcome to join us in person or spirit so that we can provide more meals for the

growing number of people in our community who need them, and greater food security in communities around the world.

You can donate to our team online by clicking [HERE](#) or by sending a check written to CWS/CROP to our church.

If you need help in joining our team to walk, contact Lynn.

Blessings and thank you in advance, The Normandy Park UCC Team

KING X: THE MEETING

ACTS ON STAGE

10806 12TH AVENUE SW SEATTLE, WA 98146

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH:
WWW.ONTHESTAGE.TICKETS





March Birthdays

Ruth Bishop	03/15
Jim Gregg	03/26
Fred Hutchinson	03/22
Vicki Nichols	03/13
Christine Storm	03/20
Lee Weber	03/07

March Anniversaries

Dave & Joan Andresen	03/18
Jane & Michael Armstrong	03/11

If you don't see your March birthday or anniversary
on this list and would like to be included,
please let Weronika know at
weronika@npucc.org or 206-824-1770.

