



NORMANDY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE TOWLINE

NPUCC's Monthly Newsletter

September 2025

19247—1st Ave S
Seattle, WA

(206) 824-1770

www.npucc.org

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Cindy Dow
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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 we close out the summer and our series on the Season of Rest, I hope we will take with us some Sabbath practices for rest and renewal as autumn arrives. This month we have our Annual Meeting on September 14th of which I hope as many people as possible can attend, and also a special Creation Justice worship service on September 21 in celebration of our work in becoming a Creation Justice Church. We'll join other congregations around the country who will also be celebrating SUN day, the power of alternative energy. So yes, be at Annual Meeting so you can learn more from the Green Team about the work we have been doing for Creation Justice and the new covenant.

If you still haven't sat down with *The Serviceberry*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer, I encourage you to do that, as we are weaving some of the themes from her short book into our stewardship season theme which officially begins in October.

I don't know about you, but I pausing to rest has been a challenge and much needed. I find myself pausing from consuming certain news outlets, pausing from doom scrolling on my phone and instead adding in time for reading novels, pruning in my garden and making sure our dogs have social time with the other dogs in the neighborhood. Because life is already hard, I need to be intentional about enjoying the silliness of dogs racing around a field together. Of course I lament the latest school shooting at a Catholic school during mass—and I have already called my representatives. Of course I lament about the hospital bombing in Gaza and the journalists that were also killed, may their memories be a blessing and their lives not lived in vain. Of course I am very concerned about the gutting of the CDC and politicization of public health, especially since we all just lived through a pandemic together and I know real people who suffer from real long COVID. The counterbalance is rest and in that rest, a sense of play.

So for those of us who have forgotten how to play, here is a prayer for that from Cole Arthur Riley from her book Black Liturgies

God of levity,

Grant us rest that permeates our waking hours. Mark our days with the recreation and playfulness of our youth. Restore to us the energy for mischief and creativity and competition that we've lost as we've gotten older. Put people in our lives who inspire us in our play. Game nights, karaoke, gardening, film—we want more than the binary of work and sleep. We want delight in the in-between, those moments of interior rest that can happen while we're awake. Show us what forms of entertainment and what hobbies lead us into peace. And protect us from the lie that if we are awake, we should be working. Remind us that a light heart is not a heart that lacks depth. That our play does not negate our grief. Let us rest in the way we need to today, Amen.

Amen and Amen!

Rev. Amy

September Calendar of Events

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

- Sunday Worship Services: 10 am
- Church Council meeting: Tuesday, September 9, 7 pm
- Bibles & Brews: Friday, September 5 & 19, 7 pm

IN-PERSON:

- Sunday Worship Services: 10 am, Sanctuary
- Lunch Bunch: Wednesday, September 3, 11:30 am, Rose Pho
- Hospitality House Walk for Women, September 13
- Annual Meeting: Sunday, September 14, during 10 am Worship
- Mission Mile: Friday, September 19, 5—10 pm, Fellowship Hall
- CE Fall Committee Meeting: Sunday, September 21, 2nd Hour, CE Wing
- Enneagram: Wednesday, September 24, 1 pm, Fireside Room

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!



Led by *Se'Si'Le* and the House of Tears Carvers of the Lummi Nation, and cosponsored by *Save Our wild Salmon* and other faith & conservation NGOs, [Xaalh: The Way of the Masks Tour](#) will bring attention to the emergent and urgent threats of the Trump Administration to Indigenous lands, waters, forests, and lifeways in the Pacific Northwest.

The Way of the Masks journey honors ancestral Indigenous knowledge that all things are related to *xaalh*: a sacred trust with the balance of life that connects forests, salmon, water, and people.

From September 6-20, with stops around the Northwest, we'll hear from Tribal and local leaders about the interrelatedness of Treaty rights and inherent rights, Indigenous ways of knowing nature and environmental justice, healthy rivers and salmon habitat, spiritual and ecological balance, and ancient forests and climate resilience.

We hope to see you at one of these Way of the Masks events:

Sept 6 – Bellingham

Sept 8 – Olympia

Sept 10 – Portland

Sept 11 – Eugene

Sept 13 – Klamath

Sept 15 – Hood River

Sept 17 – Asotin

Sept 19 – Seattle

Sept 20 – Lower Elwha



LUNCH BUNCH - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 @ 11:30 AM AT ROSE PHO

Please join our next luncheon when Madeleine

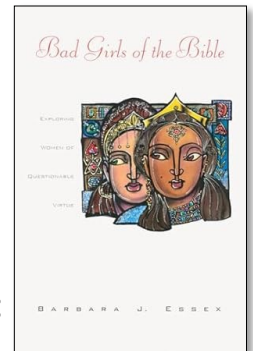


will be hosting lunch at Rose Pho, 19865 1st Ave S #302, Normandy Park, WA 98148.

If you would like to host a lunch, please add your name/where on the sign-up sheet on the kiosk.

BIBLES & BREWS—FRIDAYS, SEPTEMBER 5 & 19 @ 7 PM

We continue the study of Bad Girls of the Bible by Barbara Essex by Zoom only. On the 5th, we will be exploring Chapter 5 - "Potiphar's Wife: Truth or Dare?" (pages 38 – 43) and then on the 19th we will be exploring Chapter 6 - "Delilah: Enemy or Entrepreneur?" (pages 44 – 52).



HOSPITALITY HOUSE WALK FOR WOMEN - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Please give generously. Cash or check donations may be given to either Alice or Board President Connie, or mailed to Hospitality House, PO Box 236, Seahurst, WA 98062. You may also donate online: <https://auctria.events/walkforwomen2025>



**ANNUAL MEETING - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
DURING 10 AM WORSHIP**

Join us during worship for our annual meeting to learn what NPUCC has been doing this past



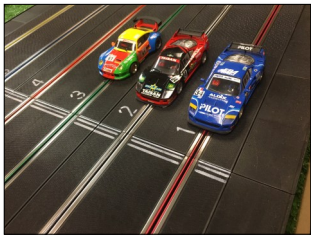
year and to vote for council chairpersons. Join us for a light lunch afterwards to

celebrate our accomplishments. If you are a church member and cannot be present to vote, you can vote via Zoom, otherwise please stop by the church office to fill out a proxy form.

The Annual Report, along with the Agenda for the Annual Meeting, will be sent by the 4th of September.

MISSION MILE – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 5 - 10 PM

Come and join Bob in racing slot cars in the



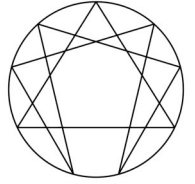
Fellowship Hall. Fun is had by all! Looking ahead to October, racing will be on the 24th.

FALL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2ND HOUR, CE WING

We will meet downstairs in the CE wing with a light lunch included. We will review what we did in the past year and plot out the next six months. Everyone interested in the faith formation of our church is welcome to attend.

ENNEAGRAM IS BACK – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 @ 1 PM, FIRESIDE ROOM

At this meet up, we will discuss 5s – MY FENCES HAVE GATES (pages 128-145) in Suzanne Stabile's book [The Path Between Us: An Enneagram Journey to Healthy Relationships](#).



Come early and take a walk around the labyrinth to calm your mind and settle in for our talk.

PETERSON BABY SHOWER—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 @ 1:00 PM—3:30 PM, St. JOHN UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Kelly and Kevin Peterson are expecting a baby girl in late October! To celebrate they are having a baby shower on Sunday, September 28th from 1:00 - 3:30 pm at Kelly's church, St. John United Lutheran (next to Woodland Park Zoo). There is plenty of parking behind (west of) the church. Please drop in when you can! There will be snacks, desserts, and games the whole time.

The couple has been fortunate to already have a large stockpile of supplies for their baby girl and ask that you just bring yourself. If you would like to purchase something in honor of Baby Peterson, please consider making a donation to Mary's Place. You can find their wish list and items in high need by [clicking this link](#). Feel free to bring donations to the shower.

[Please RSVP by clicking here](#) to let us know how many are coming, including any kiddos you'd like to bring. We look forward to seeing you there!

HYGIENE & PERIOD PACKS

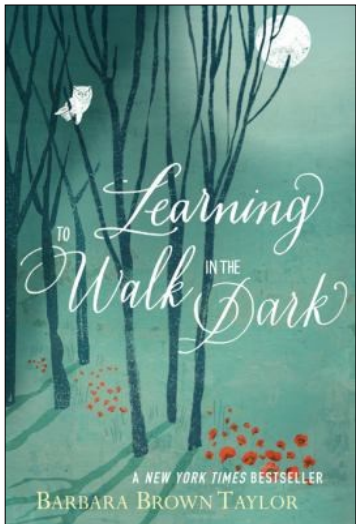
After worship on Sunday, August 10, a group gathered and assembled hygiene and period packs in the Fellowship Hall. Two boxes with sixteen hygiene packs and seventeen period packs each were filled and are ready to be delivered to two of our local middle/high schools.

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



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



This fall we will be 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.”

The plan is to read during September, and we will schedule several days for discussion in October & November.

It is available at the King County library as a book and e-book. If you’d like Lynn to purchase you a new copy at the cost of \$8.94 plus tax, please let her know.



NORMANDY PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*A loving faith community where all are
nurtured and people’s lives are changed*

September Birthdays

Rita Sorenson	9/7
Jack Watson	9/7
Bob George	9/10
Ian Thomas	9/20
Nancy Allen	9/26
Dominic Pangelinan	9/27

September Anniversaries

Michael Moser & Siobhan Van Bergh	9/14
Steve & Nancy Allen	9/29
Peter & Cathy Barton	9/30

*If you don't see your September 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*