

Dear members and friends of Normandy Park United Church of Christ – here is your Friday Food for Thought for February 10th:

KEVIN'S LAST SUNDAY AS MUSIC DIRECTOR

During Worship on Sunday, February 12th, we'll celebrate Kevin and his music ministry at NPUCC. Please stay afterwards for a reception in the Fireside Room.

TURKEY AND SYRIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORT

The news continues to unfold about the devastating earthquake on the border of Turkey and Syria. The death toll continues to rise – numbers are pointing to over 22,000 – depending on the source. This is shattering news and adds to the challenges of the war in this area for over a decade. At this time, we are issuing an appeal to help recovery efforts in Turkey and Syria. It is hard to tell what other areas are affected or the extent of the damage from this seismic event. Amid this current uncertainty, you can be certain that with your financial support the United Church of Christ will be there helping those in need.

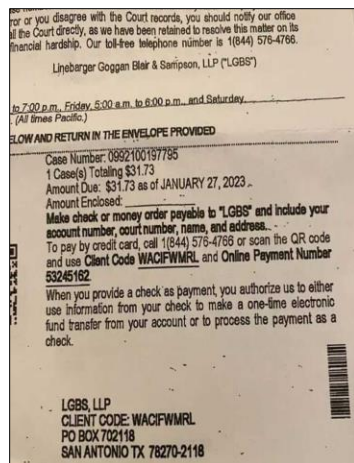
For the next couple of Sundays, we'll be collecting donations to send to the national UCC's relief efforts. You may donate by check or cash (just note that it's for earthquake relief) or via our website using PayPal or Zelle. You may also donate directly by clicking on this link: <https://support.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/turkey-syria-emergency-appeal/donate> or by texting UCCDISASTER to 41444.

N-SID-SEN SUMMER CAMPS ~ REGISTRATION OPENED

Click on this link: <https://n-sid-sen.org/summer-camp-2/> to see the many camps being offered at the UCC's Pacific Northwest Conference's camp in Idaho this summer.

BEWARE OF LOCAL SCAM

Several people in the area have reported receiving official looking letters, indicating that they have unpaid court and/or traffic fines. Do not respond to or pay these charges!



EARTH MINISTRY PEOPLE'S HEARING ON GAS PIPELINE EXPANSION ON FEBRUARY 13

The Earth Ministry/WAIPL community and people of faith across the state have been involved in opposing and successfully stopping new fossil fuel infrastructure for the last ten years, including six proposed coal export terminals and what would have been the world's largest methanol refinery. Now, we're turning our attention to a sneaky gas pipeline expansion proposal.

TC Energy (the same company behind the Keystone XL pipeline) has proposed to expand the capacity of the existing 1354-mile-long Gas Transmission NW (GTN) Xpress Fracked Gas Pipeline by 150 million cubic feet of fracked methane gas per day. GTN Xpress starts in British Columbia and runs through Idaho, Washington, and Oregon before ending in California.

As people of faith, we know #FrackedGasIsNotFaithful, and that it is immoral to expand the GTN Xpress Pipeline in a time when we need to decrease our reliance on fossil fuels. Bob Ferguson, the Attorney General of Washington, has also come out against the pipeline expansion. To learn more about the GTN Xpress expansion, visit Earth Ministry/WAIPL's website and share this coalition video on Facebook.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is accepting input on this project through Feb 16, but isn't holding any public hearings to hear from communities along the pipeline. As a result, the Stop GTN Xpress Coalition is holding our own People's Hearing on Monday, February 13 at 5 pm PT on Zoom.

Join us and our partners at the People's Hearing to hear from community leaders across the region, including US Senator Jeff Merkley (OR) and Earth Ministry/WAIPL board member and Spokane activist Naghmana Sherazi.