

Cedar Crossings

March 13, 2019



We're on the web: www.cedarcross.net and Facebook: www.facebook.com/cedarcrossumc

News and Events

Cedar Cross United Methodist Church will be hosting a "Longest Night Service" on December 22, 2019 and we would like to offer a prayer shawl to each participant that attends. *Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles...*"

Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls, or Mantles, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is given. You may use a pattern online or use your own pattern. I like to describe the shawls as large, wide scarves. A shawl can be knitted, crocheted, sewn or tied using fleece material. We would be so thankful if you would use your talents and contribute to this service. Yarn may also be donated to be given to someone who will put it to use crafting a shawl. Questions? Would you like to participate? Please contact Mary Case (425-343-4186) or Katie Rugg (425) 231-0455.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: If you do not have access to a computer and would like an updated print version of the CCUMC directory, please add your name to the sign up list on the table in the hall.

Colleen Wray needs assistance. Would you be able to help Colleen Wray move on Wednesday, March 20? If so, please let her know at 425-319-8524.

STELLAR VOLUNTEERS! For the past few months CCUMC volunteers have been picking up donations from COSTCO and delivering them to The Family Shelter, a program of Interfaith Association of NW Washington. The drivers are Bob Refling, Bob Wood, Kolleen Daly, Larry States, Melissa Hinze, and Gordon Norris.

Shelter staff had this to say about these reliable volunteers:

"The Volunteers from Cedar Cross are doing an amazing job!!! Thank you very much for all your help! The residents and the Shelter staff really appreciate what you guys do for us!!!" – Veronika Solovey

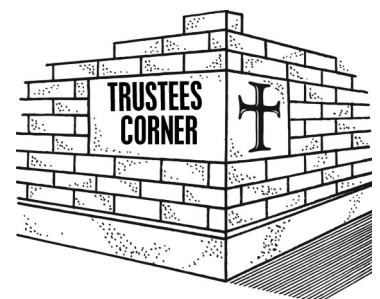
Some have indicated an interest in this service opportunity. We currently have all slots filled. If a vacancy occurs, it will be announced to the congregation. You can go onto the Family Shelter website to learn more about ways you can help individually. www.interfaithwa.org/howtohelp/

The Welcoming Committee will be celebrating birthdays this year with quarterly birthday cakes and a listing of birthdays by month and day. Please let the church office know if we don't already know your family's birthdays!

ALL CHURCH OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP: An outdoor clean-up of our grounds is scheduled for Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 9:00am to noon, with a light lunch to follow. All are welcome. Please bring your work gloves and if you have pruners, a rake or small tarps that would be great. Also, we will be starting Gardening Buddies up again. See you at 9:00am! *Many hands make light work.*

TRUSTEES CORNER:

Greetings! You may notice that three new parking signs for visitors have been installed at the entrance of the Church. In our continued efforts to be a Welcoming Congregation the Welcoming Committee acquired the visitor parking signs and with the help of the Boy Scouts they have been installed. The Boy Scouts have also reinstalled our "no left turn sign" as you are exiting the lot. Our All Church Outdoor Clean-up will be Saturday, March 30 from 9:00am to noon. (See additional article in this edition.) We are restarting Gardening Buddies on Saturday, March 30 at 9:00am. If you currently have an area and wish to continue, please let Ann Filibeck know by contacting her at (425) 355-5304. (See additional article in this edition.)



News and Events

GARDENING BUDDIES: This group was formed to help maintain our grounds and is based on the “adopt a highway program”. Our Church grounds are divided into small sections and then the sections are adopted. Our number of adopters have dwindled and we are looking for more. This small group has a scheduled meeting once every few years. We will meet on Saturday, March 30 at 9:00am, right before the All Church Outdoor Clean-up at the entrance of the Church. How does Gardening Buddies work? Once a certain area is adopted the adopter manages their area whenever they choose. The adopter can be one person, a couple, a family or a group. If you are interested please join us on Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 9:00am to adopt your area. If you currently have an area and wish to continue, please let Ann Filibeck know by contacting her at (425) 355-5304.

Puget Sound District

Roots & Wings - Love Thy Neighbor, Puget Sound Missional District (all are welcome)

We have picked the theme, LOVE THY NEIGHBOR to celebrate what God is already doing in our faith communities in the ways we are loving and engaging our neighbors as well as to spark further our imagination towards what is still possible about God's trans-formative work in our neighborhoods. To this end, four workshops will be offered, namely: Faith-based Community Organizing, Asset Based Community Development, Intercultural Competency, and Intentional Multiplication.

We will be offering Shuttle service from the ferry terminals, if you want more info please contact Hollie in the District Service Center. We will also be offering Spanish Translators (*limited available*), if you would like to reserve one contact Hollie via email, hswanson@pnwumc.org. **Where?** Edmonds UMC, 828 Caspers Street, Edmonds, WA 98020. **When?** March 23, 2019, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm. **Costs?** \$20 *Early-bird Special (2/8-3/15)* \$30 *after March 15th (and at the door)* **What?** Lunch and Childcare provided.

Worship Schedule

March 17, 2019 <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i>	Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35	“You Can Go Home Again”
March 24, 2019 <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i>	II Corinthians 3:12-4:2	“Weep Boldly”
March 31, 2019 <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i>	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	“The Lost Daughter Returns”
April 7, 2019 <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i>		Guest Preacher: Reverend Emma Donohew
April 14, 2019 <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i>	Isaiah 50:4-9a, Philippians 2:5-11	“The Suffering Servant”
April 18, 2019 <i>Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00pm</i>		
April 19, 2019 <i>Good Friday Service - 7:00pm</i>		
April 21, 2019 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	Luke 24:1-12	

Birthdays

January Birthdays

01/01 James Morrison
01/02 Ed Dorr
01/03 Charles Gibbons
01/05 Paul Schmidt
01/07 Xander Albright
01/08 Patricia Olafson
Alaina Cleveland
01/12 Justin Cutter
01/13 Jennifer Church
Allen Smith
01/16 Josie Hermann-Ballein
01/17 Tim Cartmel
01/19 Judith Allen
Dan Clayton
01/20 Grace Wiley
01/21 Lily Jia
01/25 Jeff Eaton
Conrad Rowley-Shields
01/28 Michelle Horvath
01/30 Anthony Cunningham
Dolores Cole

February Birthdays

02/01 Paige Miller
Bob Wood
Josh Versdahl
02/02 Elizabeth Mills
Mikayla Ann Bowman
02/03 Brayden Bowman
02/04 Janet Church
Alex Berg
02/05 Mary Case
02/06 Dustin Smith
02/09 Louise Norris
02/10 Bonnie Eriksen
Camille Williams
02/11 Ardeth Overbay
Janice Alexander
02/15 Amanda Keller
Pastor James Clarke
02/16 Violet Dorr
02/17 Megan Miller
02/18 Paula Wehrman
Jane Dean
02/21 Lawrence Allen
02/24 Melissa Hinze
Andrew Cunningham
02/26 Joan Pearson
02/27 Phyllis Tjepkes
02/28 Ashley Ballenger
Shari Smith

March Birthdays

03/01 Lee Ruck
Michele Versdahl
03/04 Amelia Calderon
03/10 Tina Salmon
03/12 Linda States
03/14 Shirley Kirkendorfer
03/15 Owen Livingston
Mark Matheny
03/16 Amy Boober
03/17 Kelly Berg
03/18 Katelyn Versdahl
03/24 Ruth Christensen
03/25 Matthew Cruz
Georgia Davisson
03/28 Karen Wiley
Mark Wilder
Thomas Therriault
Alana Davis
03/30 Claire Calderon
03/31 Bette Brown
Florence Rider

How Could This Happen?!

I predicted that the Traditionalist Plan would be adopted. It was in part because of previous disappointments – the election, most notably. Of course, I didn't want to say this to anyone – I wanted to be hopeful. The contingent of delegates from outside the United States felt overwhelming. It turns out I was right. 41.7% of the delegates were from predominantly Africa, The Philippines and Eastern Europe and Russia. More numerous reasons these countries are not open to the acceptance of homosexuality; they tend to be vehemently against it. The final vote was 53-47% and I doubt many, if any delegates from outside America voted for the One Church Plan. Then it's just a matter of doing the math: It doesn't take too many votes from American United Methodists to go from 41.7% to 53%. I'm not good at math and this is speculative, but I calculate that if all the foreign delegates voted for the Traditionalist Plan then the vote amongst Americans would be 60-40 in our favor.



Pastor Jim Clarke

I view this as a clash of values – good values. Fundamentally we want to be inclusive and in that vein we became a global church. We want to fully include our brothers and sisters from other lands. The other value, also based on the desire to be inclusive is to fully accept LGBTQI people into the church. However, since that decision was made the churches outside the USA have been growing while we have not. They do not view homosexuality as a matter of inclusion but rather as a deviant behavior. So now we are stuck, and ironically we are now oppressed by the structure we created to include others.

It is hard to say what will happen next. It depends a lot on the attitudes of people on both sides of the debate. The Wesley Covenant group and the Good News people – anti-LGBT lobbying groups could aggressively pursue and charge clergy who are in defiance of the Discipline. Our Western Jurisdiction has for now decided not to leave the denomination but to continue to serve in active defiance. It could be that we will simply continue as we have, and wait for another day, so to speak. If things become aggressive then we will likely face a split. I don't know what that would look like; I don't think it will be fun. Nothing takes effect until January of 2020 so there is time for things to progress. We shall see.

In the meantime, what do we do? I think we need to not only continue our ministry of Open Hearts and Minds here at Cedar Cross; we must be more open and direct. We are in a unique position here in that there really isn't a contingent of Traditionalists in our Church. This is not true of most churches in our Annual Conference. We do not have to hold back in fear that we will hurt members of our church who think differently. My question for everyone is, how do we more assertively share our values? As a result of this vote I do not want the public to assume that since we are United Methodist we are anti-LGBT – people will make such assumptions. In any event, this will be a troubled time. Rather than feel despondent, I hope we will find ways to galvanize our Church to bring some light to a dark world. P.Jim

UMCOR Sunday: March 31, 2019 is UMNCOR Sunday. It used to be One Great Hour of Sharing but for some reason that went away. This is one of the six designated special offerings in the year.

General Conference Debrief: This coming Sunday there will be a meeting to debrief what happened at the Special General Conference last month. It will be held at Faith UMC in Issaquah at 4:00 pm.

Confirmation: We have started Confirmation Class. So far we have discussed our images of God, the nature of humanity, images of Jesus and the Work of Christ. These are not topics people talk about on a general basis, but they are topics we all can discuss sometime. Our work is to introduce the youth to the issues and questions that they will confront in their faith walk, so they will be prepared to think and discuss matters of faith in the future. We have a good class with some inquisitive youth: Jacob Fritts, Bret Cain, Tommy Therriault, Paige Gacke. Please support them in their journeys.

2019 Cedar Cross Financial Update January 1 through March 10, 2019

<u>Income</u>	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance to Go</u>	<u>% used</u>
Pledged	\$ 279,700.00	\$ 37,356.00	\$ 242,344.00	13.4%
Unpledged	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 3,880.00	\$ 7,120.00	35.3%
Loose Plate	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 893.00	\$ 7,107.00	11.2%
VBS/Admin/Education	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 273.00	\$ 4,627.00	5.6%
Trustee	\$ 12,910.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 12,360.00	4.3%
Pre School Income	\$ 81,773.00	\$ 12,713.00	\$ 69,060.00	15.5%
(2)(3) Budgeted Income	\$ 398,283.00	\$ 55,665.00	\$ 342,618.00	14.0%
(1) Unbudgeted Items		\$ 2,499.00		
Overall Income		\$ 58,164.00		14.6%
 <u>Expenses</u>				
Administrative	\$ 10,350.00	\$ 1,896.00	\$ 8,454.00	18.3%
Programs	\$ 35,810.00	\$ 4,408.00	\$ 31,402.00	12.3%
Apportionments	\$ 44,382.00	\$ 11,325.00	\$ 33,057.00	25.5%
Trustee	\$ 61,500.00	\$ 11,299.00	\$ 50,201.00	18.4%
Pastor Compensation	\$ 87,906.00	\$ 11,948.00	\$ 74,958.00	14.7%
Staff Compensation	\$ 83,380.00	\$ 13,989.00	\$ 69,391.00	17.9%
Pre School Expenses	\$ 78,205.00	\$ 14,130.00	\$ 64,075.00	18.1%
Budgeted Expense	\$ 401,533.00	\$ 69,994.00	\$ 331,539.00	17.4%
(1) Unbudgeted Items		\$ 5,954.00		
Overall Expenses		\$ 75,949.00		18.9%

Notes:

- (1) Unbudgeted Items are monies that are designated and flows thru the budget or holding accounts.
 (2) Deposits are current thru 2/28: Offering 10,011, Pre School \$6,999, Vanco \$2,770, Total \$19,780
 (3) We are 0.3% behind in giving or \$1,025

Other Meetings and Events

Wednesday, March 13

Cedar Crossings

Sunday, March 17

2nd Sunday in Lent

6:30pm: Children's Ministries Meeting [13]

7:00pm: Brass Quintet Rehearsal [12]

Tuesday, March 19

5:30pm: Girl Scout Troop #44073

Wednesday, March 20

9:00am: Mission Quilters [12]

5:30pm: Girl Scout Troop #44248 [13]

7:00pm: Finance Meeting [13]

Sunday, March 24

3rd Sunday in Lent

Monday, March 25

7:00pm: Church Council Meeting [13]

Tuesday, March 26

12:00pm: Noontimers [C]

Wednesday, March 27

7:00pm: Welcoming Committee

Saturday, March 30

9:00am: Gardening Buddies [E]

9:00am : All Church Clean-Up

Sunday, March 31

4th Sunday in Lent

UMCOR Sunday

Monday, April 1 - Friday, April 5

Spring Break - No Preschool

Tuesday, April 2

11:30am: Friends in Transition [OS]

Wednesday, April 3

9:00am: Mission Quilters [12]

Sunday, April 7

5th Sunday in Lent

Tuesday, April 9

Cedar Crossings Articles Due by Two

9:30am: United Methodist Women [12]

7:00pm: Worship Committee [PO]

Wednesday, April 10

Cedar Crossings

5:30pm: Girl Scout Troop #44248 [13]

Recurring Meetings and Events

Sunday

8:45am: Worship Service [C]

10:00am: Sunday School for all [VR]

11:00am: Worship Service [C]

6:00pm: Youth Group [C]

Monday

10:00am: Caring Committee [13]

Tuesday

7:00pm: Boy Scout Troop #221 [C]

Wednesday

9:30am: Wednesday Bible Study [13]

7:00pm: S Anon [12]

7:30pm: Chancel Choir Rehearsal [C]

Friday

5:30pm: Serenity - Alanon [13]

Saturday

8:00am: S Anon [13]

☞ [EF]: Entire Facility, [E] Entrance
 [OS]: Offsite, [number]: specific room,
 [C]: Centrum, [N]: Nursery,
 [PO]: Pastor's Office.

The Cedar Cross Statement of Inclusion

*We the people of Cedar Cross United Methodist Church regard the love of God
 to be the foundation of our life and ministry.*

We believe in the ever present love of God as witnessed through Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

We believe that each person is loved by God and is of sacred worth. Therefore, by God's grace:

*We welcome all persons to our Church without regard to race, ethnic or cultural background,
 social status, gender, sexual orientation, age, theological perspective, political affiliation,
 or other means people use to categorize and discriminate against others.*

We express God's hospitality by creating a safe, healing and transforming place for all to enter.

*We celebrate the gifts of all who come seeking God, Christian community
 and justice in our world, and we welcome all into the life and ministry of our church.*



Cedar Cross United Methodist Church

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Office Hours: Monday—Wednesday 10:00am - 3:00pm

PASTOR: REVEREND JAMES CLARKE • pastorjimc@frontier.com

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