

SANDPOINTER

November 26, 2008

Sand Point Community United Methodist Church
4710 NE 70th St., Seattle, WA 98115-6148
206-523-3040 www.sandpointumc.org
Cathlynn Law, Pastor



Women's Christmas Program

The annual Christmas evening program will be held on Thursday, December 4th at 7:30 in Perry Hall. It is entitled "A Lullaby for Jesus" and will include songs by women from our choir, readings, carol singing, and candles. Bring gifts of cosmetics, warm hats and scarves, and shoe voucher money for the Women of the Church of Mary Magdalene. Bring a dozen small cookies to share with women friends.



Advent in the Chapel

The chapel will be open on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 7:30 on December 3rd, 10th and 17th. There will be advent candles, soft Christmas music, and readings from scripture and poetry. Bring your favorite CD or poem to share. Contact Berta Cohen with questions.

Special Enrichment Hour

The Enrichment Hour on November 30th will include a book exchange, and readings written by members of the congregation. You are invited to bring the books you would like to share with others to the Fireside Room on November 29th between the hours of 10 and 12 or bring them Sunday morning. Come and enjoy a no cost way to pick up a gift book or to hear from some of our aspiring authors.

Hanging of the Greens

Please join us in the sanctuary Saturday, November 29th, from 10 a.m. - noon to decorate our church for Advent and Christmas! Refreshments provided. Families welcome! Contact Sue Haas if you have questions.

Calendar

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship Service
11:15 a.m. - Fellowship Hour, Perry Hall
5:00 p.m. - Youth Group, Haller Lake UMC
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room
7:30 p.m. - AA, Lehmann Hall
7:30 p.m. - Alanon, Choir Room
Wednesday 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Friday 6:00 p.m. - AA, Fireside Room
Saturday 7:30 p.m. - Alanon, Fireside Room

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 26th

7:00 p.m., Thanksgiving Eve Service, Temple Beth Am

Saturday, November 29th

10—Noon - Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 30th

11:30 a.m. - Enrichment Hour, Fireside Room

Tuesday, December 2nd

7:00 p.m. - Trustees, Fireside Room

Thursday, December 4th

9:00 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Fireside Room
7:00 p.m. - Women's Christmas Program, Perry Hall

Sunday, December 7th

11:15 a.m. - Confirmation, youth Room

Monday, December 8th

7:30 p.m. - SPRC, Fireside Room

Sunday, December 14th

11:00 a.m. - Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Monday, December 15th

7:30 p.m. - Living the Questions Study Group

Thursday, December 18th

Men's Bible Study - 9:00 a.m., Fireside Room

Sunday, December 21st

11:00 a.m. - Christmas Pageant during worship hour

Sunday, December 24th (church offices closed)

5:00 p.m. - Family Worship Service
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Candlelight Worship Service

Thursday, December 25th

Merry Christmas! (church offices closed)

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Nominating Committee Update

The Church Council in October passed a unanimous resolution to postpone all changes to committee and work area membership until July 1, 2009. The reasoning behind this was to give our Nominating Committee and new Pastor Cathy more time to make changes and additions than is presently available due to our recent change in pastoral leadership. Our Charge Conference is scheduled for January 8, 2009 and all of our normal business, except for confirming committee membership, will occur. We will hold a special Charge Conference in June or July 2009 for the sole purpose of confirming the new class of members, officers and committee chairs. Anyone in the class of 2008 who is unable to continue to July 1st, please visit with Bill Eagen.

Children Christmas Pageant

Christmas is fast approaching and we are setting up for the annual Children's Christmas Pageant. This year we will have one rehearsal on December 14th and participate in the December 21st Church Service. If you are interested in being apart of the pageant or helping out please contact Nate Goldbloom.

MISSIONS TEAM

Thank you for your pocket change contributions to "Melodies of Compassion" each week. If there are some special "Melodies" projects that touch your heart, please feel free to contribute any extra amount you'd like by enclosing cash or check in an envelope marked for "Melodies" and placing it in the offering plate on Sunday.

At this Thanksgiving time of the year, we're reminding everyone about some of our special projects which help those who are desperately trying to make ends meet: The University Food Bank has seen incredible increases in requests for food during these hard times, and their cupboards become bare very quickly. Please remember to bring food donations to church whenever you come for a service or a meeting. We must help those who are hungry and need help.

YOUTH GROUP

AT HALLER LAKE UMC IN DECEMBER

There will be no youth group on November 30th. We will start back up December 7th at Haller Lake. Carpooling is available from Sand Point UMC at 4:30. Please contact Nate for any information or to join in on the carpool.

Couples Date Night

The next Date Night will be December 20th from 5-8 pm. This will be a special Christmas session. We will resume Date #2 in January. For those who signed up for the last Date Night - you are all set. Anyone who did not get a chance to sign up in November can jump on board at anytime. Please see Sheri Vahey or Nate Goldbloom for questions or to register and get the book. Deadline for childcare in December is the December 17th. See you all there!

Upcoming Sandpointer Deadlines (noon)/Mail Date:

Friday, December 5th

Wednesday, December 10th

Pastor's Comments

Many of you who attended worship for my first Sunday at Sand Point have already heard this story. It is a relevant story of never underestimating the potential change in our lives, and how God is working. This past July, I was on retreat with Snoqualmie. While there, I opened my laptop to discover that Rev. Elaine Stanovsky had just been elected Bishop. I exclaimed how thrilled I was for Elaine. But then in the next breath, I said, *"This is going to wreak havoc in our conference. There is going to be a domino affect."* One of the women looked at me with panic-stricken eyes, *"They aren't going to take you, are they."* Not thinking this was even a remote potential, I attempted to reassure her, *"No, I've only been here 3 years. They won't touch Snoqualmie. But it will affect other churches in the conference."* Famous last words.

As part of my ordination, I was asked: *Do you offer yourself to be appointed by the bishop to a service ministry and are you willing to itinerate?* My response was *"YES!"* The commitment I made to God and the UMC was to go where I am called, and my personal mission statement was to love the people wherever I was appointed. As difficult as it was to say yes and leave the beloved congregation at Snoqualmie, I am excited about ministry with all of you at Sand Point. I also recognize the grief that Sand Point has gone through in losing a beloved pastor in Rev. Pat Simpson. In the midst of these turbulent emotions, I trust God's Spirit is in this process.

As odd as it is to have a pastor appointed in November, there is actually something so liturgically right about beginning this journey together in Advent. Our calendar year begins in January, the school year in September, & the appointment year for Methodists begins (usually) in July. But for Christians, our liturgical year always begins with a season of preparation & waiting of Advent. Our faith tradition calls us to slow down, open our hearts, and await God's coming. Come and worship – be part of our Advent celebration as we journey together toward Bethlehem.

In the Spirit of Advent waiting and watching, Cathy