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Deadline for the September  
issue is Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.

claim the Genesis creation narratives as precedent for Sabbath. God creates and rests. So, grab a good novel, a friend, and head to the beach (or wherever else you go to relax in the Northwest) for a break. Also, I'm in the office most mornings and have a voice mail account. Give me a ring or stop in. I look forward to being a member of the UBC family!

Travis Winckler

# The Beacon

University Baptist Church

July/August 2007

Greetings! It is a great pleasure to write the summer newsletter address. As many of you already know, I am your summer intern from Princeton Theological Seminary. Princeton is renowned for its rigorous theological training, respected scholars, and rich tradition. Even above all these accolades, however, Princeton is most known for its expansive library. This place is really huge. In the world of theological libraries I have heard Princeton's is rivaled only by the Vatican. Pretty impressive.

Although I deeply appreciate the learning resources available through Princeton's library services, I must say theological and academic texts do not rank high on my summer reading list. After all the hours spent in the library last year, I am feeling a sense of liberation and relief to be thousands of miles away for a few months. These days, I am much more interested in a good novel. Currently I am reading Harold Frederic's *The Damnation of Theron Ware*. Touted as "one of the most riveting examples of American literary realism," Frederic's *Theron Ware* traces a young, naïve Methodist minister's slide into spiritual and intellectual vertigo. The book highlights the moral, spiritual, and intellectual identity struggles of the late nineteenth century stemming from an apparent standoff between the modern ideas of science and the traditional views of some strains of American Protestantism. It's been a fun read.

I love school, but I am taking this summer to enjoy pleasure reading. I think this is good. I'm sure many of you have work commitments and responsibilities that are satisfying, yet hard work. You may love it, but sometimes you need a break. Summer is a good time for just this, a break, vacation, Sabbath. In our go-go-go culture, this does not always come naturally. We may have to set time and space aside for rest and a change of pace.

As a community of faith, we

Travis will be with us as part of his training for ministry through the end of August. He will have opportunities to preach, lead worship and small groups, assist with pastoral care, and be involved with various administrative and social service tasks. He will also have opportunities to participate with our sister churches in the Ecumenical Parish and we will make sure he has time to read a few good books. Travis is being jointly supervised by Tim and by Don Mackenzie of University Congregational United Church of Christ. You can reach Travis' voicemail at the UBC office (206.632.5188) or by email at [travis.winckler@ntsem.edu](mailto:travis.winckler@ntsem.edu)



## HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAY:

7/3 Larry Sims, Vincent Lachina;  
 7/5 Lianne Sheppard; 7/6 Kyle Sims;  
 7/7 Eva Gaertner-Johnston;  
 7/11 Isaac Robb; 7/12 Eleanor Dimm;  
 Glenn Law, James Palmer; 7/14 Margaret  
 Guthrie; Kendra Kehl-Fie; 7/15 Tom  
 Nielsen; 7/20 Mary Jeffers Schroder;  
 7/29 Elizabeth Patrick,

## HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAY:

8/7 JoAnne Wright; 8/8 Tosten  
 Haugerud; 8/9 Steve Anderson;  
 8/15 Marilee Nielsen; 8/18 Zandi Carlson,  
 Romy Domingo, Audrey Smith; 8/19  
 Kirsten Palmen, 8/25 Marla Meislin,  
 8/28 Ago Pedalizo; 8/30 Peter Haugerud;  
 8/31 Virginia Nielsen.

**If you don't find your birthday here, please call the office so we can add it to our list.**

## OUR JULY SPECIAL OFFERING:

goes to the Washington Association of Churches (WAC). WAC is a focal point for ecumenical dialogue and action in Washington State.

## OUR AUGUST SPECIAL OFFERING:

will help to support Camp Burton and Cascade Meadows. These ABC camps provide a full range of programs for young people and adults, plus great accommodations for church retreats—like ours!

## AMONG OURSELVES...

We are grateful to the Seattle Peace Chorus for including us in their dress rehearsal on their way to Venezuela – offering it as a benefit concert that raised almost \$700 for UBC. We celebrate **Paula Eisenrich** and **Don Bell** for their participation in the chorus and its mission of peace ... Other UBCers engaged in the arts this summer – **Valerie, Walt & Gail Foster** have completed a successful run with the Mountaineer Players in *Robin Hood ... the legend continues* – Walt was a very convincing King John and Gail will be the music director for *The Fantastics* in August ... **Audrey Smith** continues her award-winning highland dance and music activities ... **Eva Gaertner-Johnston** played the Beriot Violin Concerto in A Minor in worship on June 24 and will be celebrating her 13<sup>th</sup> birthday (7/7/07) with a trip to Washington D.C. and Williamsburg – and we remember **Lynn Gaertner-Johnston** who visited her parents in Florida in June to check in on her mother whose health is failing ... While she is home doing an internship with Taproot Theater, **Zandi Carlson** will also be performing in *The Reluctant Dragon* in Volunteer Park in August – watch for details ... Seattle Country Day School celebrated 30 years of **Dr. JoAnn Sims'** inspired teaching at a special retirement celebration on May 23 – JoAnn and Larry will be leaving some time this summer/early fall for McMinnville, OR where they are building a new home ... **Mary & Brooke Rolston** are also on the move spending July-August traveling and then returning to sell their home ... **Lin Carlson & Carli MacColl** will be traveling July 4-28 to Kenya and will work with the Masai to build a healthcare facility ... **Tosten Haugerud** will be spending the summer on the Big Island of Hawaii with a company that sets up internet networks ... **David Bloom's** surgery went well in June and he will be traveling in the Midwest and East from July-October ... We have a report from **Annette Klapstein & Rich Gile** sailing

around La Paz, Mexico, that Annette is recovering from an infection and the boat has undergone some repairs – they will return to Seattle in mid-November ... We are glad that **Rosie** has returned safely home from Burma and that she and **Mona** were able to host a birthday benefit for Burma honoring Nobel Peace Prize winner, Aung San Suu Kyi – please especially keep in your prayers the work to re-settle refugees from the Thai-Burma border region ... We also remember the work to support immigrant rights and are grateful to **Ago & Violy** for representing UBC in the New Sanctuary Movement of the Church Council of Greater Seattle – the two also joined ANSWER in a peace presence at the Gay Pride Parade on June 24 ... **Tom Nielsen** is in full swing with camps he directs for adults and children living with cancer – please keep him in your prayers as well ... **Catharine Fletcher** reports that her cancer treatment is going well and that she will begin what she hopes will be a 3-month regime in early July ... **Alain Aridj** has let us know that his cancer has returned and has been in treatment since September -- a stem cell transplant is on the horizon ... **Peggy Lockman** asks us remember her grandson **Adam** whose military service has taken him to Afghanistan ... We also remember **Jackie Lamont's** sister **Sylvia** who is recovering from knee surgery and **Cass Newell** asks for prayer for the family of Norm Maleng ... for all of these we offer our thoughts and prayers.



## FROM THE UBC OFFICE... HELP NEEDED IN AUGUST

I will be taking a four week vacation in August, beginning August 7<sup>th</sup> and coming back September 4<sup>th</sup>. I will be visiting friends and family in California, as well as spending time in Seattle, enjoying the bounty of the harvest and putting food by for the fall and winter.

To help keep the church office running, I am looking for volunteers to be in the office for the three hours between 9:00 am and noon, Tuesday through Friday. Volunteers would be responsible for basic office tasks, including answering phones, checking emails, and making copies as needed.

The church also needs bookkeeping done during this month. I will be coming in to do the basic bookkeeping that needs to be kept up on during August, including paying bills and preparing reports for the Stewardship Council meeting.

If you are able to volunteer, please call me at the office, 206-632-5188, or sign up on the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Thanks.  
Sofia  
Office Manager

## STAFF NOTES

Having served faithfully and creatively as our choral director for five years, **Jeff Thirloway** has announced that he is stepping down from that position. The choir is invited to a gathering hosted by Martha Bean to discuss future plans and the Pastoral/Staff Relations Team will be considering options as well. During the summer, Margie Paynton will be coordinating music and a special worship/music summit is being planned for late summer by Worship Team leader Elizabeth Patrick.

This is also the season for vacations and Tim has provided the Stewardship Council with a plan to provide coverage during these times. **Margie** will make a plan for music for the Sundays she will be away in July and August. While our Building Manager, **Meesh** Cobban, is away the first two weeks of July, Travis will be covering her duties. **Sofia** Olson, Office Manger, will be gone through August (see related article) and **Tim** will be at the ABC Biennial in Washington D.C. Thursday, June 28 through Wednesday, July 4 and will be on his annual July vacation will be July 16 – August 1. While Tim is gone, Travis will be speaking and planning worship; administrative and building issues can be referred to Sofia and Meesh and issues of broader concern to the congregation can be referred to Martha Bean, moderator, or Eric Brown, moderator-elect; pastoral concerns can be referred to Jackie Lamont of the Congregational Care team and to Travis.

Also, the Pastoral/Staff Relations Team is beginning the annual evaluation process for Meesh, Sofia, and Tim. Your input is invited by Eric Brown, team lead, and the other members of that team: CoraLea Doty, Kathryn Jans, Bill Stalder, and Martha Bean, moderator.

*Our own Gail Foster will be the musical director for this summer production as the Mountaineers Players and the Kitsap Forest Theater present:*

### ***The Fantasticks***

August 4,5,11,12,18,19,25,26  
2:00 p.m.

www.forestTheater.com or Gail Foster  
for more information.



From the Moderator

## SEEKING THE HOUSE GOD HAS FOR US: THE INSPIRATION YOU ARE

Greetings UBC folk. On Father's Day, June 17<sup>th</sup>, we unanimously passed a motion that sets us on a proactive course to find "a someone" to develop our property in partnership with us. The language of this motion and the motion brought by the Mission Support, Peace and Justice Team are both printed on the next page. As I reflect on our meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>, several things are striking to me. Forty six people voted after our solid, spirited and respectful work on consensus. A handful of others hoped to attend but could not; each of these people told me they would have voted "yea" for our "Seeking the House" motion. This is an incredible percentage of our membership participating in this important decision. That morning, over a lovely lunch prepared by Patrick and provided by an anonymous donor, we were old and young(er); people whose families have been with the church for generations, and people who have joined us within the last year. We were male, female, straight, gay, ordained and lay, and we represented (some!) degree of ethnic and socio-economic diversity. We share a commitment to each other, and to the call God has made to each of us to live the values and mission we can realize through UBC. We responded again to God's call on the 17<sup>th</sup> by unanimously passing a motion in support of the New Sanctuary Movement. Wow.

So what is next? Your Working Group leads are actively seeking developers to court us – and vice versa. We are actively looking into possibilities for housing ourselves with another church, with short and long term horizons. It is possible that consultation with you – the people of UBC – will be needed during the summer, given the schedule we have given ourselves. So stay tuned – and we will do our best to keep you up to date. If you have *any* questions or concerns at all, please do feel free to call myself, or Eric Brown, your moderator and co-moderator respectively.

We've just made a difficult and positive decision. You have all taken to heart Tim's reminders that we must never underestimate the power of showing up. And being heard! And hearing others!

Personally, I feel relief and excitement, as well as pride in the manner in which we have engaged each other. But this will not be the only hard decision we make – it's not all smooth sailing from here. The decisions ahead of us may require us to speak even more assertively about our hopes and needs, and have even more patience and compassion with each other as we creatively work toward consensus. Who will develop our property with us? Do they share our values? Does it matter if they do? How will we continue our mission work? Which missions? How does music blossom in our new setting? What does it mean to be "financially stable"? All of these are questions that we will face.

Most of you know that it is my profession to work with groups on collaboration and consensus. I feel qualified to tell you with confidence that the commitment and care you have *all* shown to date in this discernment and decision making process is both rare and powerful. I know in my heart we can make our future decisions with the same dedication to one another, and to God.

One final observation: I primarily work with government groups, environmental advocacy groups and quasi-governmental groups (like utilities). As you might guess, a collective opening prayer is not something I do when working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. And if discussion turns harsh at a meeting with Tacoma Power or King County, I don't ask people to stop and take a quiet moment to consider God's love. I pray silently, of course, for all those I serve. But you, UBC, you can and do *collectively, overtly* and *explicitly* consider what God has to tell us as we seek the new home God has for us. This is extraordinarily potent. And comforting. Thank you, friends, for giving me the opportunity to do my work in this setting of love, care, challenge and confidence. I am so proud to be a member of this congregation.

# FULL TEXT OF THE TWO MOTIONS BROUGHT TO THE JUNE 17 SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

## **Brought by the Stewardship Council and passed unanimously:**

1. Members of University Baptist Church (UBC) authorize the Shared Parish Working Group to continue discussions regarding co-location with other congregations and with the University District Ecumenical Campus Community (UDECC).
2. Members of UBC authorize the Work Group Leads and Moderator to actively seek partners to develop our property in a manner that furthers our values and mission, and produces a sound financial outcome for UBC. Further,
  - a. The Working Group Leads and Moderator will conduct all inquiries, discussions and negotiations regarding the development of the UBC property in a fashion that is consistent with Congregational perspectives reported in May.
  - b. The Working Group Leads and Moderator will strive to have a partnership agreement regarding the development of our property ready for initial review by the Stewardship Council no later than November 1, 2007.
3. If no potential partnership agreement is ready for initial review by November 1, 2007, members of UBC authorize the Working Group Leads and Moderator to prepare a motion or motions to offer the church property for sale. These motions will define conditions and requirements of such sale, including provisions for a temporary location for UBC.
4. Decisions authorizing the development and/or sale of the church property will be made by members of UBC. Members will have a minimum two weeks to review a recommendation regarding the development and/or sale of the property from Stewardship Council before being asked to take action at a Congregational Meeting.

## **Motion brought by the Mission Support, Peace and Justice Team and passed all in favor with one abstention.**

1. Members of University Baptist Church (UBC) have reviewed the 'Statement of Support and Involvement' (available from the church office) prepared by the 'New Sanctuary Movement', a program of the Church Council of Greater Seattle. The Statement includes three subsections: 'Education', 'Advocacy' and a section that begins 'In addition we commit to one or more of the following:'
2. Members of UBC authorize our Moderator to check all the boxes under the 'Education' and 'Advocacy' sections of the Statement, and to sign it on behalf of our congregation. We understand that these eight checked boxes comprise our current and sincere commitment to the New Sanctuary Movement.
  - ❖ We further commit to educating ourselves, such that we will be better prepared to be effective advocates.
3. Members of UBC encourage individual members or small groups of UBC congregants to commit to any or all of the further tasks needed by the New Sanctuary Movement: Legal Triage, Hospitality, Material Support and Worker Justice. UBC will provide what support it can to these individuals and small groups.
4. Members of UBC will re-visit our commitment to the New Sanctuary Movement by the end of 2007. In addition reviewing the commitment made in June, we will specifically probe whether or not we are ready and able, as a congregation, to commit to assisting with the tasks of Legal Triage, Hospitality, Material Support and/or Worker Justice.

# STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MINUTES

JUNE 21, 2007

Present: Margie Payton, Martha Bean, Kathryn Jans, Eric Brown, Elizabeth Patrick, Jackie Lamont, Meesh Cobban, Brooke Rolston, Travis Winckler, Daniel Hannah, Tim Phillips, Marilee Nielsen, Mary Clare Benson, Bev Spears, and Lin Carlson

Tim opened with prayer. The May 17<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved.

Building Report: Meesh reported on the Housing Trust Fund Inspection and the sprinkler inspection (provided by AAA Fire & Safety). We did not pass the sprinkler inspection, but the inspector will recommend someone who could do the work. Our fire alarm and smoke detectors work fine. Daniel and others will assist with follow-up calls. A special Council meeting will be called if necessary to approve expenditures. The stove is not working properly in one of the transitional housing apartments. The Council authorizes up to \$500 if needed to replace the gas stove. Thanks to Meesh for her work.

Pastor's Report: Tim reviewed the staff summer vacation schedule and coverage plans. Jeff is stepping down as Choral Director. Initial plans were discussed about the coordination of music for the summer and beyond. The choir and the pastoral staff relations team will be involved in discussions about future leadership. There is an opportunity for UBC to provide a meal for Tent City Four which is being hosted by the Community Church of Issaquah. The Seattle Women's Jazz Orchestra has requested to use our facility for free, but will provide a benefit concert. We currently have three groups with the same arrangement. Council empowered Tim to negotiate an appropriate arrangement, but no additional groups will be offered this arrangement. Martha will communicate with the Council about meeting on July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup> and any alternative times.

Treasures Report: Mary Clare distributed the May 31<sup>st</sup> Balance Sheet and reported we continue with a positive balance. Expenses are lower for year-to-date. We receive an undesignated memorial gift for \$5,000.

Pastoral Staff Relations Team: Eric reported that Tim and he are working on staff evaluations.

Mission Support/Peace and Justice: Daniel reported that Ago and Violy will be attending the Church Council's sanctuary meetings. The MSPJ team has scheduled a UBC Sanctuary Forum on July 15<sup>th</sup>. A Coordinator has been hired for Saturday Kitchen. Appreciation was expressed to Daniel for all of his work.

Worship Team: Elizabeth reported that there will be an exciting Worship Forum in August. A date will be announced in the near future.

Congregational Ministries: Bev reported she has been invited to serve on the executive council for the Center for Progressive Ministry. UBC is a member.

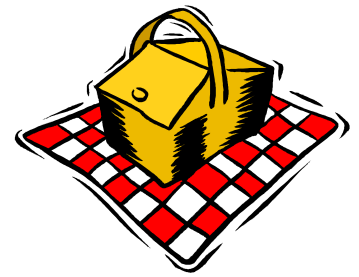
Update on the House that God has for Us: Last Sunday's special business meeting was discussed and appreciation expressed for congregational consensus. Martha and Tom met with a very helpful representative of the Seattle Office of Housing. A discussion followed on the value of updating our appraisal as well as a market appraisal. Finance team was asked to have a discussion on what we mean by the term "financially sound." In order to place approved motions in the Newsletter, Lin will send the "House" motion to Tim and Martha will send the sanctuary motion. Elizabeth briefed the Council on the meeting with University Christian representatives. The discussion on co-location opportunities felt really positive.

Meeting ended at 9:10pm.

Submitted by Lin Carlson, Church Clerk

## UBC GATHERINGS IN JULY-AUGUST

A summer *In the Garden* series is an opportunity to gather, enjoy each other's homes and yards, and to share in conversation about faith. Each gathering begins at 6:00 p.m. with food provided by the hosts. RSVP's appreciated. Join us ...



Thursday, July 5, at the Dimm's, 8201 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Seattle – join us for paella.  
Phone: (206) 524-4997.

Thursday, August 9, at Lori & Bob Taylor's, 10134 NE 187<sup>th</sup>, Bothell – food provided. Phone: (206) 465-1135.

Thursday, August 23, at the new home of Lee Allen Ford & Mary Clare Benson, 7535 210<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Edmonds – food provided. Phone: (206) 523-9357.

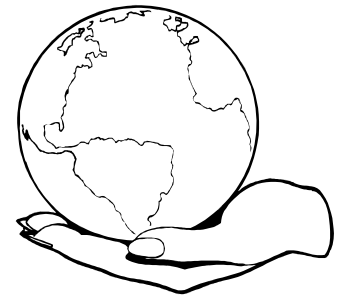
### *Other gatherings ...*

Sunday, August 12, **Worship & Picnic in the Park:** Join us for worship at 10:30 a.m. in Ravenna Park followed by a potluck picnic and games. Invite your friends for a gathering of worship and celebration in the park.

Monday, September 3, **Labor Day picnic** at Tim & Patrick's. Join us for a potluck Labor Day celebration at 16275 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Shoreline. Phone (206) 726-8638.

## UBC GOING INTO THE WORLD IN JULY-AUGUST

Remember Lin Carlson & Carli MacColl in Kenya working with the Masai to build a healthcare facility in July. Remember as well the many connections UBC has with the Philippines, Burma, Rwanda, Central & South America, India, and the Middle East.



**Saturday Kitchen** – join the UBC Team to help cook and serve a hot meal in our Social Hall for street folks every first Saturday – July 7 & August 4. To volunteer, contact Alethea Putnam at (206) 523-0421.

**Sanctuary Movement** -- learn more about our recent decision to extend our sanctuary commitment to those suffering under the current immigration policies at an educational forum following worship on Sunday, July 15 (lunch will be provided thanks to the Sims). On Sunday, August 5, join us for worship with Filipina justice activist, Florchita Bautista, who will be preaching in worship that day.

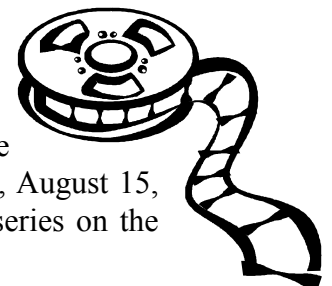
*Celebrate the centennial of our sister church, **Wedgwood Community (American Baptist) Church** on July 20-21, 8201 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Seattle. Join our friends at Wedgwood for a Music Festival on Friday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m. or for the Commemoration Service at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 21; RSVP by July 10 to attend the July 21 service by calling (206) 525-2663 or by email at colleenblaine@hotmail.com.*

**Tent City IV** will be hosted by our sister American Baptist church, the Community Church of Issaquah, August through November. Churches are invited to provide a meal during that time and Elizabeth Patrick is coordinating a team from UBC. To volunteer, contact Elizabeth at (206) 283-4090.

**Religion & Labor** will be the focus of worship on Sunday, September 2. A labor leader joins Tim for this service celebrating the spirituality and dignity of 'good work.'

## UBC GOING FORWARD

As a way to invite our friends to experience UBC in a way that makes clear who we are in a less 'churchy' way, the Inviting & Welcoming team is creating a movie series for the progressive church that begins on Archbishop Oscar Romero's birthday on Wednesday, August 15, with the movie **Romero** that will initiate a movie series. See the plan for the entire series on the following page.



## The Progressive Church Movie Series

A series of movies related to themes during the coming months and offering an opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a spiritual community today. Each movie begins at 6:00 p.m. and will be followed by discussion. Please invite guests to join us in the McAfee Parlor for the evening.

- Wed., Aug. 15** Celebrate Archbishop Oscar Romero's birthday with the film, *Romero*.
- Sat., Sept. 15** With the Stewardship Series focus "my cup overflows" from Psalm 23, join us for the hilarious and often moving *Vicar of Dibley* – each episode begins with a musical setting of Psalm 23.
- Sat., Oct. 6** On the Saturday before World Communion Sunday, consider the metaphysical message of unity in the documentary *One*.
- Sat., Nov. 3** The Reformation movement is celebrated during this time of year and the call of the progressive church to continue that reformation is considered as we watch the historical drama, *Martin Luther*.

## AND SPEAKING OF INVITING AND WELCOMING...

### MEETING STEPHEN

Contributed by Martha Bean

Grocery list: rye crisp, rhubarb, apples and shampoo. Shrimp looks good, throw those in the cart as well. Get to the check out stand, encounter a pleasant young Asian man (is he Korean? "think so) with a trendy swath of bleach-blond highlight in his styled hair. Name tag says "Stephen, Team Member since 2007".

"Oh I agree with your t-shirt!" says the young man as he skillfully scans groceries and makes eye contact at the same time. I have to tip my head downward to see "Jesus is a Liberal" emblazoned on my shirt. Oh yes, this t-shirt.

"Sure was!" say I.

"I was raised Southern Baptist. Think of it. A Korean Southern Baptist. Home-schooled. The whole thing. But when I read the Bible, seems to me God loves everyone. Jesus even had criminals for friends! So I think Jesus loves me. My parents love me, but they can't accept me for being different, for being who I am."

"Being 'different' is hardly equivalent to being a criminal – but some 'religious' people sometimes want us to think so. "Did you know there are two Baptist churches in town that are totally open about GLBT people?"

"Really?" says Stephen. "Which ones?"

"There's First Baptist, and there's our church, UBC right here in the U District. We have a gay pastor. You should come."

"Oh I'm kinda down on the whole church thing now. But thanks!"

"I understand. I totally understand. Hope to see you again!"

"Yes! Thanks for letting me take your time in the grocery line!"

"No problem!"

Grocery list for next week: eggplant, gnocchi, sherbet, an invitation for Stephen.

# JULY - AUGUST WORSHIP

- July 1**      **Worship & Communion / *Some Good News* (Matthew 4.23-25)**  
Led by Tom Nielsen and Communion Meditation by Travis Winckler.
- July 8**      **Worship / *A Good Show* (Galatians 6.7-18)**  
Tim Phillips preaching.
- July 15**     **Worship / *A Good Neighbor* (Luke 10.25-37)**  
**(Special offering for Washington Association of Churches)**  
Tim Phillips preaching. **Immigration Forum & Lunch** follow worship.
- July 22**     **Worship** led by Travis Winckler.
- July 29**     **Worship** led by Travis Winckler & Emily Dumler to preach.
- August 5**    **Worship & Communion /** Filipina activist **Florchita Bautista** to speak.
- August 12**   **Worship & Picnic in the Park /** Tim to preach
- August 19**   **Worship /** Travis to preach
- August 26**   **Worship /** Tim to preach