

May-June Monthly Packet

We are so grateful for all the many volunteers who contributed to the success of the 2023 Annual Meeting: from the Planning Committee, to all those local church volunteers, (First Congregational Church in Bellingham), the Tech Team, and the others who helped impromptu! It takes a big team! Thank you all! If you'd like to be on the Planning Committee for next year's Annual Meeting, please contact the conference office.

To read the Monthly Packet on our website, click [here](#).

Quick Links:

Conference Calendar

If you'd like your committee meeting or event added to the calendar, please send an email to office@pncucc.org.

June

- 1 Moderators Meeting; online; 7:00-8:30
- 6 Board of Directors Meeting; online; 6:30-8:00pm
- 7 Jonna's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30am
- 8 Westside Committee on Ministry meeting; online; 9:30am-2:30pm
- 14 Church Development Committee meeting; 1:30-3:00pm
- 15 Personnel Committee Meeting; 2:30-4:00
- 15 Moderators Meeting; online; 7:00-8:30
- 16 Eastside Committee on Ministry meeting; online; 10:00am-12:00pm
- 20 Dismantling Racism meeting; online; 5:30-7:00pm
- 22 Stewardship Committee meeting; online; 7:30-8:30pm
- 30 34th UCC General Synod; Indianapolis, IN

July

- 4 Independence Day, Conference office is closed
- 5 Jonna's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30am
- 12 Jonna's Office Hour; online at 9:30-10:30am
- 12 Church Development Committee meeting; 1:30-3:00pm
- 13 Westside Committee on Ministry meeting; online; 9:30am-2:30pm

Conference Directory

The new 2023 Conference Directory is nearly complete! The newly elected Board Members and Committee Members are included. Plus the new church in Everett! It's in a draft stage now and will soon be finalized. If you'd like a copy emailed to you, please contact Arlene at arlene@pncucc.org.

Transitions

Rev. Dr. Sandy Wisecarver, (Blaine UCC) graduated with a doctorate on May 8th from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. *Congratulations, Sandy!*

Rev. Lillian Pak is the new interim at the First Congregational Church in Colville.

The following are transitions confirmed by the Committee on Ministry recently.

Kenneth Colman was approved for Transfer of Standing.

Sally Balmer and **Penny Matthews** have been granted Exempt Ministerial Standing.

Elizabeth Gordon was approved for endorsement.

Steve King was approved for ordination pending call.

2023 Summer Adventures

You & Me Camp, July 9-12
grades 1-5 with an adult

Kids Camp, July 12-15
grades 2-4

Intermediate Camp, July 2-8
grades 5-6

Jr Hi Camp, July 2-8
grades 7-9

Sr High Camp, July 9-15
grades 10-13

Emerging Young Adults,
June 15-18, ages 19-35

Family Camp 1, July 23-29

Family Camp 2 - Camp Together
July 30 - Aug 5



Grades listed are the
grades entering in the fall.

www.n-sid-sen.org

Ten Reasons I Prioritize Sending My Child to Church Camp

By Leah Atkinson Bilinski

1. At UCC church camp, I know my child will be welcomed, affirmed and celebrated for who she is, as she is.
2. At church camp, I know leaders will gently guide my daughter and others in cooperative, group-building activities that help her better understand interdependence and valuing others' gifts and ways of being in the world that are different from societal norms.
3. Immersion experiences in places set apart from our normal lives and routines (and away from electronics and social media) are important in making space for much to blossom in ourselves and in relationship with others.
4. I value the justice-oriented curriculum UCC church camps utilize, further shaped by pastors and lay leaders who serve at camp.
5. I want my daughter to observe gifted adults generously giving of their time because they believe in a vision for what a week at camp can be and bring.
6. N-Sid-Sen is a breathtaking setting that inspires growth in one's sense of the Divine.
7. I appreciate her learning about the Kin-dom of God for which we strive by living into a model of the Kin-dom at camp.
8. UCC church camps were where I first felt free and invited to be myself, made a wide variety of strong friendships, learned to truly pray, and experienced God's call in my life. I would be elated for my child to find even a fraction of what I did at church camp.
9. When I send my daughter to camp for a week, she is engaging a full week (about 75 waking hours) of faith education and life lessons that will benefit her and our world. That's more hours than she could gain in a year of perfect Sunday school attendance!
10. Seeing her smile at the end of the week and listening to her rapidly and excitedly recount all that happened on the ride home warms my heart and makes me incredibly thankful for this wonderful resource available to us all.

Visit n-sid-sen.org to learn more about UCC church camp opportunities, the bring-a-friend discount, the new "You and Me" camp experience and much more!



UCC Webinar—Seizing an Opportunity: Strengthening EPA Protections in 2023

As UCC congregations across the country embark upon collecting thousands of signed postcards for the Environmental Protection Agency as part of the [Climate Hope Cards](#) campaign, this webinar will cover how the coming months at the EPA present a significant opportunity to save thousands of lives, address societal inequalities, and put the United States on a path to achieve 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2035. Even if you cannot make the webinar at its scheduled time on June 14th at 1 pm ET, still sign-up, and we will send you a link to a recording of it. [Register now!](#)

[Hyperlink: https://UCC.zoom.us/webinar/register/4916782911066/WN_sIRFO7M4T1Wfa_tM-zUDyQ]

Communities of Practice (CoP) 2023/24



Photo by Rev. Jennifer Butner, used with permission

Communities of Practice are support groups organized by the Committee on Ministry, led by trained facilitators, for folks who are in a variety of ministries in our Conference.

Perhaps you have been part of one at one time, or have been curious. Now is the time to think about this circle of support for 2023/24.

- Groups for specialized ministers, pastors in different contexts and congregation sizes, retired clergy, and more
- Inclusive for Members in Discernment
- Most groups meet on zoom making it possible for groups to exist across the mountains and even time zones

What do people say about it?

"I am new to the UCC ministry and find it very helpful to be in a group with others who are further along and who offer both encouragement and guidance as I learn to do ministry the UCC way. Our leader poses good questions to get us talking and offers insightful reflections after each one shares."

"It's essential!"

"Being able to meet regularly with a CoP group of colleagues is one of the best things I do for myself. This group keeps me connected & relative to the PNC & UCC, supports me in my life and ministry and inspires me to grow as we support and learn from one another."

How much does it cost?

\$250.00 September through June, though some groups opt to meet during the summer too; Scholarships are available.

How do I get more info? Contact Rev. Amy Hitchens at amy@npucc.org PNC UCC

The second class in the series, [De-escalating High Conflict Behavior](#) is coming up in just a couple weeks on June 15th from 12:30-2pm. There is still time to register!

Please see a description of the class and a link for registering below. We'd love to see you there!

De-escalating High Conflict Behavior

DATE: 6/15/23 @12:30-2pm \$30

WHERE: on Zoom

[Register Here](#)

About the Class

Whether high conflict behavior is directed toward you or someone you care about, being able to respond to it calmly and effectively can be a vital leadership skill.

We will start with overarching principles of de-escalation, both for ourselves and others. Then, drawing on Bill Eddy's work on High Conflict behavior, participants will learn and practice a powerful, easy-to-remember tool for responding to high conflict communication, whether in the form of challenging verbal or written "feedback," meeting hijacking, or hallway ambushes. This workshop is an interactive combination of lecture and discussion with an opportunity to practice with your peers in a neutral and supportive learning environment.

About the Instructor

Rev. Sophie Morse has worked in the field of conflict resolution and conflict skills training for over 15 years. She has presented over 500 hours to diverse audiences including incarcerated populations, volunteer mediators, professionals, and youth in Kitsap County and across WA state. Her complete bio is available [here](#).

See All Available 2023-2024 Conflict Classes [Here](#).



May Celebrations

Best wishes to our clergy and their partners on their special days.

Ordinations

Ronald Hutchinson	63 years	Penny Matthews	48 years
Lindalee Purdy	14 years	John Rogers	61 years
Pat Bennett	42 years	Elizabeth Gordon	2 years
Sharon Benton	20 years	Judith Hjorth	58 years
Kris Ostrem	21 years	Wayne Wilson	24 years
Ruth Brandon	50 years	Lisa Horst Clark	14 years
Emily Tanis-Likkel	18 years	Dennis Hollinger-Lant	46 years
Cameron Sharp	47 years	Kendall Baker	59 years

Birthdays

Bianca Davis	David Royer
Leah Atkinson Bilinski	Kathy Turner
Cathryn Cummings	David Morris
Mae Durland	Tara Barber
Lauren Cannon	Joy Haertig
Linda Crowe	David Brown
Jeffrey Lee Barker	Ron Blake
Kathie Forman	Marci Scott-Weis
Tara Leininger	Donene Blair

Anniversaries

Sharon Benton & Jamie Kepros
Davi & Rachael Weasley
Allen & Carla Chase
Cameron & Kathryn Sharp
Anthony & Linda Robinson
William Rennebohm & Barbara Bennett
Randall Mullins & Sharon Pavelda
Richard & Joyce Wyanski
Dee & John Eisenhauer
Janna Born Larsen & Steve Larsen



June Celebrations

Best wishes to our clergy and their partners on their special days.

Ordinations

Art Mampel	59 years	Gregory Turner	53 years
James Spraker	59 years	Sandy Wisecarver	9 years
Cindy Bauleke	37 years	Jill Komura	12 years
Jack Coates	55 years	Floyd Emerson	58 years
Glenn Kalkbrenner	62 years	Fred Hutchinson	40 years
Marion (Mimi) Lane	59 years	Jim CastroLang	42 years
Jeannette Solimine	22 years	Gary Southerton	35 years
Amara Oden	1 year	Donald Mayer	64 years
Mark Travis	29 years	Daniel Schnabel	54 years
Greg Turk	29 years	Philip Eisenhauer	67 years
Cynthia Meyer	52 years	Hollis Bredeweg	45 years
Diane Darling	42 years	Joseph Murphy	52 year2
Susan Cutshall	34 years	Tim Devine	36 years
Allysa De Wolf	9 years	Sam Rennebohm	2 years
Tom Sorenson	21 years	Jennifer Butner	20 years

Birthdays

Charles Harlow	Kendall Baker	Donna Poland
John Eisenhauer	Jean Emerson	Cynthia Meyer
Jill Komura	Kalyn De Wolf	Marcia McLaughlin
Tim Devine	Hilde Wright	Mary Ann Winters
Karyn Frazier	Michael Ostrem	David Anderson
Diane Schmitz	Kris Ostrem	Jim Halfaker

Anniversaries

Dennis & Jodie Hollinger-Lant
 Daniel & Doris Berg
 Angela Ying & John Ruhland Ying
 David & Lyn Kratz
 Jim & Louisa Halfaker
 Thomas Carson & Carol Taylor
 Harvey & Suzanne Buer
 Tim Devine & David Anderson
 Mary Olney-Loyd & Gary Loyd
 Susan Y. & David Morris
 Terry & Martha Teigen
 Kristine Zakarison & Jonathan Bliss

