

## September Monthly Packet

This month we are bringing to you word from both of our hard-working camp managers. We are so grateful for the work they do.

### Fall is in the Air at N-Sid-Sen

As we wander the paths and lakefront here at N-Sid-Sen this month there is definitely a feel of fall in the air! And that means church retreats!! The strong scents of the pines and rosehips, and what is that sweet scent in our bell park? Perhaps pineapple fern? The sound of leaves crunching under our feet as we walk down to the cove brings a promise of cooler temperatures and hopefully an evening campfire... eventually! We are still under a fire ban, so if you are coming for a church retreat you'll need to bring your flashlight to help us light up the nights until the fire ban is lifted. We've been getting things closed up for winter and cleaned up for your church retreats so you will notice some buildings already locked up, some games put away, and a few new signs to help direct you safely to your favorite spots for meditation and meandering. It was a great summer and by next spring we hope to have new opportunities for camping, glamping, wilderness wandering and more. Plans for a fall volunteer weekend are underway, so stay tuned for that date to be announced. If your church or organization would like to book a retreat just give us a call and we will be happy to help you find a date and finalize your plans. See you soon! Pam and Dean.

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**Rev. Dr. Pamela J Peterson, Director**  
**N-Sid-Sen Camp and Retreat Center**  
36395 S Hwy 97, Harrison, ID 83833  
208.689.3489 (office)  
406.426.8715 (cell)

# Conference Calendar

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

*All meetings are online unless otherwise indicated.*

## September

- 4 Conference Office is closed to observe Labor Day
  - 6 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30am
  - 7 Moderators Meeting; 7:00-8:00pm
  
  - 12 Church Development Committee meeting; 1:15-3:00pm
  - 13 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30am
  - 14 Westside Committee on Ministry meeting; 9:30am-2:30pm
  - 15 Eastside Committee on Ministry meeting; 10:00-12:00
  
  - 20 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30am
  - 21 Personnel Committee Meeting; 2:30-4:00
  - 21 Moderators Meeting; 7:00-8:30pm
  
  - 24 Ordination and Installation of Rachel Haxtema; Keystone Church UCC; 4:00
  - 27 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30am
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Admiral Church in West Seattle has more New Century Hymnals than we need. We would like to find good homes for them for the cost of shipping. Ships book rate so very inexpensive. If you are interested, please contact [joyinthemorning1130@gmail.com](mailto:joyinthemorning1130@gmail.com) <<mailto:joyinthemorning1130@gmail.com>> with the number you need. We have over a hundred, so could accommodate several offers.

**Shalom UCC** in Richland is seeking a CE Director. [Job description](#). See below.

*The Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ  
and Keystone United Church of Christ*

joyfully invite you to celebrate the

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

Rachel Haxtema



September 24, 2023 at 4 pm

Keystone UCC Seattle

**5019 Keystone Pl. N., Seattle**

Reception will follow.

Wear rainbows or red!

*RSVP for in-person or zoom:*

rachel.haxtema@gmail.com

Rachel is called to serve as  
Associate Pastor at Keystone UCC.



Rachel Haxtema (she/her) is called to serve as Associate Pastor at Keystone UCC. Rachel has worked at Pacific Lutheran University for the past 10 years in various capacities including community partnership facilitation and contingent faculty in Christian Ethics. She has also worked at End of Life Washington and in environmental non-profits. Rachel lives in Tacoma with her partner, Zame, and 2 children in elementary school and they enjoy Pt. Defiance park, Owen Beach and Rainiers baseball games.

## Transitions

**Patty Ebner's** transfer of standing to the Southwest Conference was completed on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Rachael Haxtema** will be ordained on September 24, at Keystone Church, UCC in Seattle. At the August meeting of the Westside Committee on Ministry, **Kenn Robinson** was granted MID status, **Alyssa de Wolfe** had her 4-way covenant approved, and the Our Whole Lives curriculum (**OWL**) be granted the designation of "Endorsed by the PNC COM". This was approved unanimously. They will seek agreement from COM-East.



## *UCC Events*

The installation of our new **General Minister and President, the Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson**, will be held in Ohio on October 20th. Registration and live-stream information will be posted [here](#). Be sure to save the date



## What's Happening at Pilgrim Firs

This is one of those rare moments at Pilgrim Firs. It's quiet and no one is around. No one except the deer, eagles, osprey, and squirrels that live here year-round. It's a lapse and a calm in between groups. The water laps the shore in a gentle breeze. The guitar camps have gone home, the last 2 summer church groups have worshipped around the campfire and packed up. Planned Parenthood Teen Council has wrapped up their planning and are preparing for the coming year.

We as your staff at Pilgrim Firs are also taking a well-deserved breath and just enjoying this oasis just outside of suburbia. Walking, listening, breathing.

What a year we have been having here at your camp. From the delightful dinner bell ringing of the Taiwanese UCC youth to the open LGBTQA picnic in the Pride Garden with hundreds of folks enjoying Pilgrim Firs in the sun and safety. I love watching how camp changes lives as so many folks discover that this too is church. My heart swells with pride to know this is my church doing what we do best, sharing God's love.

We know that soon the Banjo Camp comes in and sets up for the weekend, followed by Woman 2 Woman, Bellevue Choir and Warrior Pathh. The myriad of groups keeps coming and we delight in it all.

October brings in the PNCUCC Women's retreat on the 6-8. Be sure to sign up soon. The theme is Cultivating Cozy led by Marcia Mclaughlin, Beth Secord, Kaila Russell, Eva Tanis-Likkel and Emily Tanis-Likkel

Follow this link for more information.

<http://www.ultracamp.com/info/sessiondetail.aspx?idCamp=367&campCode=nss&idSession=418073>

We have more UCC church groups, PTSD groups, 12 Step groups, songwriting groups continuing that wonderful parade of visitors continuing into January with rarely a free weekend.

Be sure and mark your calendar for Feb 9-11, 2024, for the return of Midwinter at Pilgrim Firs. This will be a joint Jr -Sr High weekend of fun and community as we take a deep dive into our faith. Watch for more information coming soon to your church.

Give us a call so we can help you find a way to get to camp. You know you want to come here as much as we want you to come.

October 6-8

# Cultivating Cozy



## ***GATHER WITH US***

at **Pilgrim Firs** in **Port Orchard** for a cozy, nourishing weekend including crafts, small group conversation, board games, and comforting meals. We will practice bringing the intention of comfort into the present moment.

## ***5PM FRIDAY - 10AM SUNDAY***

This gathering is expansive to include all women, trans and cis, as well as gender non-conforming and non-binary people comfortable in a space that centers the experience of women.



## ***REGISTER HERE:***

[Registration Link](#)

Weekend: \$175

Saturday only: \$100

Retreat designed by Marcia McLaughlin, Beth Seacord, Kaila Russell, Eva Tanis-Likkel and Rev.

Emily Tanis-Likkel. Questions? Email: [rev.emilyjoy@gmail.com](mailto:rev.emilyjoy@gmail.com)

# 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](mailto:amy@npucc.org) PNC, UCC.





## Job Description - Christian Education Director

### (Early Childhood/Youth) Shalom United Church of Christ

505 McMurray St. Richland, WA 99354

**Job Summary:** The Christian Education Director (CED) is an integral part in what Shalom sees as a unique role in our community to meet the needs of those seeking a progressive, inclusive Christian church that encourages individuals in particular, our children and youth, to grow in their own beliefs.

The CED reports to the Pastor and the Christian Education Committee which is part of the church council. The CED, who is responsible for the development and oversight of the education program for early childhood through teens at Shalom, works closely with the CE Assistant Administrator (CEAA), CE employees and volunteers in the daily management of those activities. This part-time position is ideal for someone with previous experience working with children. Someone with leadership abilities who is highly motivated, able to prioritize activities, supervise and work closely with others. Monthly salary is commensurate with experience.

**Responsibilities and Duties:** The CED will maintain scheduled hours to perform the following duties. The CED will supervise, confer with, and support the education team to ensure that the following requirements are fully met. The CED will:

- • Attend monthly Christian Education committee meetings/communicate with staff.
- • Develop and oversee all children's programs including afternoon activities, Sunday morning and evening programs, special holiday and community events and summer vacation Bible school.
- • Recruit and train staff and volunteers for the children's programs.
- • Maintain accurate records and remain within budget.
- • Maintain children's program social media including the Shalom website.
- • Create and maintain clear lines of communication with parents.

**Qualifications and Skills:** Prior experience working with children is preferred. This candidate would have strong interpersonal, organizational, leadership and communication skills, the ability to work in a variety of circumstances with flexibility and composure, and a willingness to learn new technology and programs. It is expected that this candidate will:

- • Provide a warm rapport and positive environment for children and families.
- • Be empathetic, sensitive, and discreet.

**Expectations:** The CED is expected to uphold and reflect the values stated in the “Shalom Purpose,” by representing the church in a friendly, positive, and professional manner. The CED is expected to:

- Pass a criminal background check
  - Maintain privacy, confidentiality, and discretion of all Shalom employees and the congregation; in particular, its children and youth members.
  - Comply with church policies, rules, and regulations.
  - Complete all required training relating to work with children and youth.

*Please apply by sending your resume to [shalom@shalomunitedchurch.org](mailto:shalom@shalomunitedchurch.org) ATTN: Lauralee Sorenson*



# September Celebrations

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

## Ordinations

Richard Wyanski	55 years	Marci Scott-Weis	5 years
Larry Winters	57 years	Sally Balmer	34 years
Mark Bonnema	43 years	Jennifer Castle	2 years
Rebecca Withington	9 years	Larry Baker	59 years
Kaye Hult	39 years	Andy CastroLang	25 years
Amy Roon	16 years	Gail Crouch	32 years
Bruce Wilson	8 years	Angela Ying	31 years
Catharine Cline	10 years	Terry Teigen	43 years

## Birthdays

Jim CastroLang	Lyn Kratz	Carol Blake
Richard Wyanski	Joanie Henjum	Elizabeth Gordon
Gary Loyd	Allen Chase	Joseph Murphy
James Spraker	Kenneth Colman	Jennifer Butner
Ben Files	Ann-Marie Illsley	Mimi Lane
John Ruhland	Suzanne Buer	Roderick Mackenzie
Tom Sorenson	Dee Eisenhauer	

## Anniversaries

- Kathy & Greg Turner
- Diane Schmitz & Bill Stalder
- Donald & Lynnea Mayer
- Art & Jackie Mampel
- Katy Lloyd & Carl Guess
- Marcia McLaughlin & Beth Seacord
- Allysa & Kalyn De Wolf