

THE SUNNYSLOPE CHURCH

Church of the Brethren
United Church of Christ
3330 School Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Phone (509) 663-5745

sunnyslopechurch@nwi.net

<http://www.sunnyslopechurchwa.org/>



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

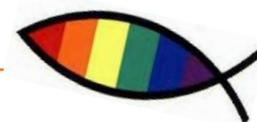
EDITED BY Janeal Himes-Jacobson

LEADERSHIP TEAM

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Russell Clark | Pastor | Settled |
| Ken Neher | Moderator/Vice Chair | 2023 |
| Carol Bowman | LT Chair | 2021 |
| Mary Katherine Deen | Clerk/Secretary | 2023 |
| Ed Deen | Treasurer | 2022 |
| Cheryl Hall | Financial Secretary | 2022 |
| Gary Harlow | Property | 2022 |
| Janet Stutzman | Social Action/Outreach | 2022 |
| Lois Tate | Hospitality/Celebrations | 2022 |
| Sasha Sleiman | Christian Ed | 2022 |
| Ben Green | Worship Comm | 2021 |
| Bob Jackson | Deacon Representative | |

DEACONS

Bob & Edie Jackson
Bess Parsley
Bob Wells & Karen Dunning-Wells
Marian Gillin*
July Hampton*
Ordo Stutzman*



Come as you are. No dress codes.

No judgments.

No discriminations. No distinctions.

So, bring your doubts, questions, and busy kids. God does not reject people. Neither do we. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome to full participation in all areas of our congregational life and ministry.

At The Sunnyslope Church we do not put a period where God has placed a comma, because we believe God is still speaking and we are still learning what it means to live in Jesus' realm of love, compassion, and justice.

SUNNYSLOPE CHURCH

JANUARY 2021

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | SUNDAY |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | <i>Happy New Year</i> | | 3 Leadership Team 8:15 am Zoom Worship 10:30 am Preacher: Pastor Russ |
| | | | | | | Second Sunday after Christmas |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | | Sunnyslope church-chitchat 4:00 pm | | | | Zoom Worship 10:30 am Preacher: Pastor Russ |
| | | | | | | The Baptism of Christ |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| Pastor Russ Wenatchee | Pastor Russ Wenatchee | Sunnyslope church-chitchat 4:00 pm | | | | Zoom Worship 10:30 am Preacher: Pastor Russ |
| | | | | | | Second Sunday after Epiphany |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| | | Sunnyslope church-chitchat 4:00 pm | | | | Zoom Worship 10:30 am Preacher: Ben Green |
| | | | | | | Third Sunday after Epiphany |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| Pastor Russ Wenatchee | Pastor Russ Wenatchee | Sunnyslope church-chitchat 4:00 pm | | | | Zoom Worship 10:30 am Preacher: TBD |
| | | | | | | Fourth Sunday after Epiphany |



REFLECTIONS



Dear Sunnyslope Members and Friends,

I am writing this during the last few days of 2020, so first, I'll wish you a Happy New Year! For many of us, it is none too soon to say goodbye to a year that has brought so many challenges and so much tragedy to so many.

It was suggested at our Christmas Eve Service and again last Sunday, however, that one of the hopeful signs of the year 2020 was the fact that, in the midst of all this difficulty, our faith has helped us to persevere. This is true of Sunnyslope Church and in the two services mentioned above, we took some of our inspiration from Jesus' parents, Mary and Joseph.

Despite their common status, despite the "unexplainable" circumstances in which they found themselves, despite every reason to walk away in the opposite direction, Mary and Joseph eventually embraced what they saw as God's plan for them: to bring "God with us" into this world.

I want to thank all of you, again, for your enthusiastic and gifted participation in the Christmas Eve Service and last Sunday's service, led by our younger adults, as well. Both were well-attended and complete with great liturgists, message presenters, singers, and audio-visual technicians. The candlelight we shared on Christmas Eve was a great tribute to the resilience of our faith.

I also want to thank you for the generous gift presented to me by the leadership of the church on your behalf. Even after 35 years in ordained ministry, there are days when I feel quite lost in the face of the new ground we have been forced to plow in 2020. Any gestures of kindness then, I think you'll agree, go a long way toward helping us to look to the future with a sense of hope.

And finally, that is my prayer for each of us as we come to this threshold of the year 2021: the hope that God has given us in Jesus, that we will be able to do the things we are called to do in the New Year to come.

In Christian Love, Pastor Russ

*email: russdclark@gmail.com *Phone: (509) 671-7854



THE SUNNYSLOPE CHURCH



Church of the Brethren & United Church of Christ

WORSHIP SERVICE

Zoom Worship
Every Sunday in *January*



COME AS YOU ARE
ALL ARE WELCOME

PASTOR RUSS'S OFFICE HOURS

Mon. & Tues.
2nd & 4th Weeks in January
Phone: (509) 671-7854
email: russsdclark@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Janeal Himes-Jacobson
Tues. thru Thurs. 9:00am-1:00pm
Church Office Phone: (509) 663-5745
Email: sunnyslopechurch@nwi.net
Website: www.sunnyslopechurchwa.org

Sunnyslope Preaching Schedule

| | |
|------------|-----------------|
| January 3 | Pastor Russ |
| January 10 | Pastor Russ |
| January 17 | Pastor Russ |
| January 24 | Ben Green |
| January 31 | to be announced |

ZOOM

| | OFFERINGS | ATTENDANCE |
|----------|-----------------|------------|
| 12/06/20 | 3,170.00 | 33 |
| 12/13/20 | 200.00 | 35 |
| 12/20/20 | 1,020.00 | 35 |
| 12/24/20 | | 62 |
| 12/27/20 | 225.00 | 44 |
| | <u>4,615.00</u> | <u>209</u> |

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|------|------------------|
| 1st | Esther Gregory |
| 4th | Louise Harlow |
| 7th | Galen Miller |
| 9th | Ben Green |
| 10th | Anna Whitehall |
| 10th | Kevin Bowman |
| 10th | Kurt Bowman |
| 11th | Christina Tangen |
| 14th | Nancy O'Cain |
| 16th | Russell Clark |
| 27th | Carly Neher |



Special Offerings:

CWS/New Comm Project \$1,295.00

JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERING

Pastor's Special Fund **Sunday, January 31, 2021**

This month's special offering is an opportunity for you to give to a discretionary fund for the pastor's use. This fund is set up to allow the pastor to make decisions about who to support at any time. IE: somebody comes to the church asking for help with specific needs like gas, food or a bus ticket. The pastor is encouraged to purchase these items for the individual using funds from this fund and report to the Leadership Team as these funds are spent.

Please send your contribution to Ed Deen,
201 South Elliott #11
Wenatchee, WA 98801

JANUARY REPORTS AND UPDATES

A brief re-cap of Congregational Forum **business**, December 13, 2020

A slate of leadership for 2021 was accepted by consensus. (See the front page of this newsletter.) Other additions were Edie Jackson on the hourly staff personnel committee, and Mary King as our rep on the Pastor's Personnel Committee.

Team Reports from 2020

WORSHIP - Ben Green: Our goal is to provide meaningful worship for daily living. The Zoom services involve as many as possible. Thanks to all who generously donate help. It is wonderful to have Pastor Russ here, preaching the first three Sundays of the month and acting as liturgist the 4th Sunday of the month. Pastor Russ has all 5th Sundays (4/year) off.

HOSPITALITY - Lois Tate: No in-person activities since February due to the pandemic, but she has begun to send much-appreciated birthday cards out to members.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Sasha Sleiman: In Jan/Feb organized for recruitment of families and children. A youth group began and met for several weeks before the pandemic before being put on hold. We will be having a Bible Study for Adults starting in Lent.

SOCIAL ACTION - Janet Stutzman: Here's what we've done to "Shine On:" Became a pass-through entity for Wenatchee Immigrant Justice; continued Packing Friendship through March and then donated funding for muffin pans to Sunnyslope School Meals Program; raised \$2831.65 for Lebanon Relief; and raised \$4238.05 (to date) in Monthly Special Offerings.

PROPERTY - Gary Harlow: Difficult to close the church building to all users. Gary and others have been at the church regularly, keeping grounds neat, provided cleaning stations for those entering, and providing supplies and equipment for janitor (Kim).

A company created a detailed assessment of the building. A committee of Gary, Jerry, Bud, Steve, Pastor Russ, and Ben reviewed the report and determined priorities: Securing the roof, adding a handrail on the south set of steps. **Consensus was to move ahead by accepting the bid (\$6,000) for securing the roof.**

In November, a car ran into the church; Gary is in the process working with insurance and getting it repaired.

DEACONS - Bob Jackson: Visitations by phone, follow-up on the prayer chain, communion via Zoom worship.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Cheryl Hall: tracks and deposits income and has worked with Homchick for our accounting service(s). Kinks are worked out and going smoothly.

PASTOR'S REPORT - Russ Clark

- During pandemic comes twice a month to Wenatchee and tries to stay in touch via phone, distanced visits, response to prayer chain;
- Works closely with Worship Committee for weekly worship;
- Meets and works with office staff;
- Connected with and meets monthly with Progressive Clergy in Wenatchee.

We expressed appreciation for the way Russ has adapted in a pandemic as our new pastor. We are so grateful to have him with us during these challenging times!

TREASURER'S REPORT / BUDGET - Ed Deen: We can celebrate that income has been steady and pledges for 2021 have increased! A 2021 budget reflecting income and expenses of \$95,880 was presented. **Consensus to accept the 2021 budget, with the addition of \$6,000 as both** (to be raised) **income and expense** (for securing the roof).

The meeting adjourned with a reminder to stay positive and remember that *with God all things are possible*.

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In a familiar chorus we sing, “...*The church is not a building; the church is the people!*”  
Here is an opportunity to help with current needs for the Sunnyslope Church  
*building that helps us to be the people of the church!*

## **OPERATION FACELIFT: Tighten and lift!** **(tighten down the roof & replace the chairlift)**

In two separate actions, the Congregational Forum and the Leadership Team have approved a dual-purpose project to care for two important needs in the church building. **(1)** We need to tighten down our roof to prevent damage outside and leaking inside, AND **(2)** we want to replace the chairlift from the library to the kitchen to help improve accessibility in our building. We hope to raise a total of \$9,500 to cover these important needs. The projects will begin soon! It will be fantastic to have those projects completed when we are able to begin meeting in the building again!!!

Costs will be covered from our operating accounts until we offset those expenses through donations from the people of the church. We are encouraged that \$1,000 has already been committed.

If you would like to donate, please send your check with a note on the memo line for **“Operation Facelift”** to Ed Deen, 201 S. Elliott Ave., #11, Wenatchee, WA 9880.

Or, if it works more comfortably for you, feel free to pledge a monthly amount for a few months (your choice). Please let Ed Deen know of that intent in a note to the same address.





Wenatchee for Immigrant Justice is excited to announce that we are the recipient of a grant from “All In Washington” for \$50,000 to help our immigrant community members who have been hard hit by the Coronavirus. It could not have come at a better time, with requests for financial help increasing in the past couple of weeks, as the numbers affected by the virus in our area has soared. The need for rent assistance, and even just basic needs, is so great.

Over the past several months, WIJ has raised and distributed approx. \$90,000 to over 275 families in need. With this grant we hope to offer assistance to about 100 more. We have experienced such generosity during this process including from the community members who are in need. Scheduled to receive funds they will often reach back to us to say that their situation has changed due to a return to work and to give their assistance to someone else in greater need.

Thank you to those of you who have so generously donated of your time and energy as well as your finances – you have made a difference.

Thank you Sunnyslope for continuing to do the work of Jesus in our community.

If you wish to donate to WIJ to help even more families in need you can write a check to Sunnyslope Church and send to  
Ed Deen at 201 S. Elliott Ave. #11,  
Wenatchee, WA 98801.

Be sure to write WIJ in the memo line.

In Solidarity, Not Charity,

Mary Katherine Deen,  
Co-Coordinator, Wenatchee for Immigrant Justice.