

The Saltwater Scroll

The Newsletter of Saltwater Church

A Place to Belong, Grow Your Soul, and Change the World

September 2015 Newsletter

Worship Services

All worship services are at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, September 6
“Finding Your Purpose”
With Rev. Dr. James Kubal-Komoto

A “Meet the Minister” gathering for recent visitors will happen at 12 noon after today’s worship service in the church office.

Sunday, September 13,
“Stop the World, I Want to Get Off: Escaping from an Overschedule Life”
With Rev. Dr. James Kubal-Komoto

Sunday, September 20
“A Turning Point Service: A Celebration of Autumn”
With Rev. Dr. James Kubal-Komoto

Please bring a small container of water from your summer travels or someplace special near your home for our Ingathering Ceremony this morning.

There will be a potluck lunch after this morning’s worship service. Please bring a dish to share.

Sunday, September 27
“God and the ‘What’ of Unitarian Universalism”
With Rev. Barry Andrews, Guest Minister

Board of Directors

Sharon Crow, President
Lisa Key, Vice President
Echo Allen, Secretary
Gay Greeves, Treasurer
Aaron Sperry
Quinn Rose
Saphronia Young

The Board of Directors may be contacted by email at board@saltwaterchurch.org. Phone numbers and addresses are listed in the church directory. Board officers will be elected at the July board meeting.

Church Office Information

Office: (253) 777-4994 or (844) 480-0647 (toll free)

Email: info@saltwaterchurch.org

Website: www.saltwaterchurch.org

Church office hours: Sue Eaton, our church administrator, is usually in the office Monday, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Wednesday, 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.; and Friday, 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. She sometimes runs errands, so please call before stopping by.

Minister and Staff Contacts

Any staff member may be reached by phone by calling (253) 777-4994.

Minister: Reverend James Kubal-Komoto
Email: minister@saltwaterchurch.org

Director of Family Ministry: Melinda Einander
Email: melinda@saltwaterchurch.org

Music Director: Paula Mayfield
Email: paula@saltwaterchurch.org

Choir Director: Tom Burt
Email: tom@saltwaterchurch.org

Church Administrator: Sue Eaton
Email: sue@saltwaterchurch.org

Minister's Schedule

Reverend James is at the church Sunday through Thursday most weeks. His days off are Friday and (sometimes) Saturday. He is available for appointments late mornings, early afternoons, and evenings. Feel free to call him on Fridays and Saturdays, but unless it is an urgent matter, he may not return your call until later.

Church Calendar

The church calendar is on our website, at www.saltwaterchurch.org/calendar. To have an event put on the church calendar, contact church administrator, Sue Eaton, or visit www.saltwaterchurch.org/calendarrequestform.

Deadlines

The deadline for announcements for the Weekly Emailed Announcements and the Order of Service is **Wednesday by 10 a.m.** The deadline for the newsletter is the third Sunday of every month. The next newsletter deadline is Sunday, September 20.

To submit any announcement or newsletter content, visit www.saltwaterchurch.org/publicity. If you email an announcement, please use the announcements@saltwaterchurch.org address only. If you email a newsletter article, please use the newsletter@saltwaterchurch.org address only.

Our Welcoming Community

Meet the Minister

A “Meet the Minister” gathering will take place on Sunday, September 6, at 12 noon in the church office. This is an informal get-to-know-you gathering for recent visitors and is also a chance to learn more about Saltwater Church and Unitarian Universalism.

Kent Pride Fest

by Mary Morgan, Outreach and Welcoming Team Leader

For the first time ever, Saltwater Church will be participating in the Kent Pride Fest, which occurs the weekend of September 11 – 13. We’ll have a booth in the park Sunday, September 13, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. This is a chance for our congregation to reach out to LGBTQ individuals, families, and allies in South King County and let them know that we are a congregation that warmly welcomes them.

We need volunteers to staff the booth, so we need your help. We plan to have three shifts: 9 – 11 a.m. (includes set-up), 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and 1 p.m. 3:30 p.m. We’d like to have at least two volunteers per shift. Brochures and giveaways will be provided.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Mary Morgan at (253) 970-4294 or morgabini@live.com.

Our Worshipping Community

Ingathering Ceremony

During your summer travels, don’t forget to bring back a small container of water for our Ingathering Service in September. This year, our Ingathering Service will be on Sunday, September 20.

Our Learning Community

Aging with Spirit

Aging with Spirit will meet Sunday, September 27, from 12- 1:30 p.m. in the Church Office. Snacks are appreciated. We will read Chapters 5 and 6 of *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande.

Saving Jesus

Have you ever felt like Jesus was kidnapped by the so-called Religious Right and ignored by the Secular Left? Have you ever yearned for a better understanding of who Jesus really was, and what he really taught?

Reverend James will lead this six session class beginning in October. In each class, participants will watch a 30-minute video and then have a guided group discussion.

The class will meet Wednesdays, October 7, October 21, November 4, November 18, December 2, and December 16, 7-9 p.m. Childcare will be available if requested. To sign up, visit www.saltwaterchurch.org/classes or call the church office at (253) 777-4994.

Fall Chalice Circles Begin in October Sign up by Sunday, September 20



Chalice Circles, our small group program for adults, are a wonderful way to get to know other church members and to reflect on life's big questions with them. They usually meet the first and third weeks of the month, either at a church member's home or at the church.

Chalice Circles starting in October will meet six times from October through December. The deadline for signing up for these Chalice Circles is **Sunday, September 20**. Early registration is extremely

appreciated. Please remember that it's necessary to sign up again even if you want to continue in the Chalice Circle you attended in the spring.

Chalice Circle brochures and registration forms will be available in the Welcoming Room. It's also possible to find out more about Chalice Circles and to sign up for Chalice Circles online at www.saltwaterchurch.org/chalicecircles .

To find out more about trying out a Chalice Circle, joining a Chalice circle, or signing up for a Chalice Circle, please contact Reverend James at (253) 336-6561 or minister@saltwaterchurch.org .

Compassionate and Choices of Washington Workshop

By Carol Sandoval

A workshop on end of life choices will be held at our church on November 8, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., presented by Compassionate and Choices of Washington. Presentation will cover information

needed to make end of life choices that can be shared with loved ones and medical providers. It is important that people of all ages consider these issues, discuss them with those that they care about and document their desires. This presentation is not just for elderly people. Younger people also need to prepare for unexpected futures and all people 16 and over are encouraged to attend. Those who attend can complete medical advance directives if they choose before leaving the workshop. A light lunch will be provided for a suggested donation. All are invited. People can register by contacting Compassion and Choices at [\(206\) 256-1636](tel:2062561636) or at associate@compassionWA.org. Members of the organizing committee will also be available after church on October 11, 18, and 25 to register those who wish to attend. Space is limited. If you have questions, contact Cynthia Bagley, Sue Eckersley, Rosie Olds, Carol Sandoval, or Gean Dindia.

Our Caring Community

New Member Profiles

Edited by the Melanie Cohen and Meri Murphy



Jeanna Gomez became a member of Saltwater Church in April, 2015. Jeanna and her husband, Austin Smart, moved here 16 years ago, having lived in Crossville, Tennessee, and Santa Fe before that. Jeanna grew up in Pasadena, California, where she attended the UU Neighborhood Church. Jeanna and Austen both work in theaters in the downtown Seattle area, Austin as a builder and

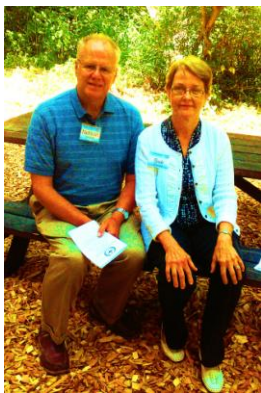
Jeanna in costumes. In their free time, they enjoy walking and camping. They also enjoy cooking at home--Jeanna notes that she has a particular interest in growing edibles and flowers in her yard—and their three cats keep them company. Jeanna came to Saltwater Church when she was looking for companions in her spiritual practice, along with a sense of community and ways to become a better person and a more active steward of the Earth. As one of our new 2015 members, Jeanna brings her knowledge of gardening and landscaping interests and skills, along with her abilities to help foster harmonious spaces for people, plants, and wildlife. She also enjoys sourcing free materials or re-using/repurposing materials in a creative fashion; and, as Jeanna says, “I will occasionally wear unusual items on my head. Most frequently these are hats.”

Kathy Hunt became a member of Saltwater Church in May, 2015. She was born in Connecticut



but her dad was in the navy so she lived in many places growing up. She is most recently from Tallahassee, Florida where her siblings still reside. She moved here with her boyfriend because he liked it here and to escape the heat. She likes to go out on the water (in a boat), on walks and to the movies. Kathy is interested in civil rights as well as helping people with disabilities. She has worked in social work with people living with mental health issues. Because she liked the philosophy, she attended a UU church in Tallahassee. She was happy to find Saltwater UU church close to her new home. At Saltwater, she hopes to find like-minded people, get to know them, and be active in social justice works. She participates in the writers group as a writer of nonfiction.

Sue Schmitz became a member of Saltwater Church in May, 2015. She is originally from Connecticut, and transferred to Washington in 1996. She lived on the Eastside until 2014, when she retired from her medical clinic administration job and moved to Maple Valley. She is a dog lover and is interested in pet rescue. She volunteers at the Seattle Humane Society. Walking on local trails with her husband, Nelson Schmitz, and their dog is her source of relaxation. Sue and Nelson also enjoy board games and cards, and are part of a game group they formed in 1997. They have two grown sons: Evan, who lives in Brooklyn, NY; and Andrew, who lives in Bellevue. Their experiences with their son Andrew, who is developmentally disabled, inspire Sue and Nelson to be involved in advocacy and political action for the disabled. They were members of the East Shore Unitarian Church in Bellevue before deciding that a smaller congregation closer to their Maple Valley home would be a better fit for them. Sue looks forward to getting to know Saltwater UU's better and enjoyed the Chalice Group she was in. She would be interested in forming/being part of a support group for people who have adult children or family members with developmental, physical, or mental disabilities or with addiction issues.



Nelson Schmitz became a member of Saltwater Church in May, 2015. On his membership information form, Nelson writes, "Just like my wife, I was born and raised in Greenwich, CT. We dated in high school in 1967, went our separate ways for a while, and bumped into each other in 1973. Fast forward just 4 years; we had two children and a house in Massachusetts." Nelson's working life in the photo industry enabled him to pursue his main hobbies of photography and fine art printing. After the downturn in the photo industry, Nelson spent his remaining active career in the chemical industry until his retirement in 2014. Nelson's religious journey began in an Episcopal church in Connecticut as a child (which is "code for being dragged by [his] parents to church on many Sundays"). He is more spiritual now but is not focused on any one religion. In Nelson's words, he is drawn by "a need to belong to a community which understands the concept of good human behavior, love and peace, which could transcend to something else once my soul separates from my body." As a member of our Saltwater community, Nelson brings his interests in abstract and fine art photography, his ability to converse freely and his sense of humor. He has been known to "impersonate famed voices from the past" and has "strong progressive political views which might be of use in some forums."



Janeane Weprin became a member of Saltwater Church in May, 2015. Janeane was born in southern California, but was raised in northern California. She moved to Illinois in 1979, then moved back to her beloved Pacific Northwest in April 2013. A son and daughter-in-law remain in the Midwest. Janeane now lives in Maple Valley with her daughter, son-in-law, and their two children: Evey (8 years old), who comes to church with Janeane; and Zach (3 years old), who will also come to church with Janeane when he is a bit older. Janeane was raised Presbyterian and left that church at age 13. She became a UU officially in 2000, but has been a

UU at heart for much longer than that. For the past ten years, she has been on a path of deep spiritual inquiry. She loves this work, which has transformed her life. She is the Program Coordinator for Liberal Arts at the Art Institute of Seattle, and chose Saltwater UU Church not only for its location—halfway between her Seattle work and Maple Valley home—but also for the feel and spirit at Saltwater. Janeane loves singing in the choir, as well as with the congregation for the hymns. For this past year, she has enjoyed being a volunteer, not only in the choir but also working with the children and youth during the Lighthouse Chapel. For this next year, Janeane will continue being a member of both the choir and the worship team.



Corinna Olsen became a member of Saltwater Church in May, 2015. She moved to Washington to be closer to her children, who attend Saltwater Church with their father. Now living in the Tacoma area, Corinna has been a funeral director for ten years, and is interested in discussing end-of-life issues with all ages. In her free time, she enjoys cooking and participates in the sport of competitive bodybuilding. Prior to becoming an official member of our community, Corinna attended Saltwater's church services for holidays. For 2015, Corinna will be getting to know Saltwater and will

be looking to see where she can be most useful as a member.



Karin Leisy became a member of Saltwater Church in May, 2015. She has lived in King County all her life, and moved to Kent three years ago. She has a daughter, who is now in college, and a son who is in the Army. Karin writes that she loves her work as a Lead IT Systems Analyst at a finance company. With her children grown and out of the house, Karin describes her new empty-nest philosophy and outside-of-work interests: "I am taking some time to find out what my interests are, and have discovered that I am too uncoordinated for roller derby, am a huge fan of the Sounders, and enjoy the Seattle Opera. My home is right by the Green River, which is perfect for walking. I also like board games and get a bit too competitive on game nights. At Saltwater

Church, I am enjoying the sense of community I have found and look forward to participating more fully in service with Sound Alliance as well as within the church." As a member and volunteer of the Saltwater community, Karin will enjoy baking and bringing homemade treats for events and fundraisers, and can be relied on to provide 'getting things done' assistance when there are organizational, planning, or support-role needs. For 2015-2016, Karin is a member of the Hospitality House team, a Sunday Morning volunteer, and is also participating in Sound Alliance events.



Patrick Finney became a member of Saltwater Church in May, 2015. He and his wife, Aida Sanchez-Vela, have been part of the Saltwater Church community for many years. One of their sons, Fernando, recently graduated from high school and is now in college. Their youngest son, Gustavo, takes part in Saltwater's Lighthouse programs for children and youth. Patrick also has three grown children, Mianisha, Shanti, and Mariah. Shortly after Patrick's recent retirement from work, he experienced the joy of having his daughter Shanti and her family move to the Seattle area, which gives Patrick time with more of his children and grandchildren. For 2015-2016,

Patrick is continuing as a member of Saltwater's church choir and as a member of Saltwater's Stewardship Team. Patrick and Aida are co-hosts, facilitators, and active participants in Saltwater's twice-monthly Chalice Circles, which are Saltwater's most popular small-group programs for adults. They also take part in and support Sound Alliance activities and events.

Sheri Jacobson met Russell as an eighth-grader in Oklahoma and married at the ripe old age of 19. They just ended three years of traveling in a motorhome, making several loops around the United States and going as far northeast into Canada as Labrador. They decided to live in the Kent area, near their son and grandson who currently live in Des Moines. Their daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren now live near Boulder, Colorado. After a career history that included farming and publishing, Sheri is happily retired with a long list of interests and passions. She is an artist, knitter, long-time vegetarian, baseball fan (Go Mariners!), amateur genealogist and Civil War buff, loves movies, standup comedy, and is not happy without a stack of books to read. She is particularly interested in the issues of hunger and economic justice.



Russell Jacobson has always been interested in making things work, even as a boy growing up in Oklahoma. Before retirement he managed a department, responsible for the control systems in large commercial buildings throughout North America. In between his boyhood and later career he was a farmer participating in a program with Oklahoma State University which resulted in a fascinating agricultural trip to China before it was open to Western tourists. After retirement, he and his wife Sheri took off across the country in a motor home before settling in Des Moines into something with a little more space. Russell is interested in fishing, photography, baseball, cars, and Civil War history. He enjoys spending time with his grandson in Des Moines and grandkids in Colorado.

Fellowship Night

By Lisa Key, Board Vice President

For the past few years, our congregation has held a monthly Fellowship Night that included dinner and various activities. That is going to change this year. While there will no longer be Fellowship Nights, there is a new team that is planning to start alternative services this year.

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Additionally, the current plan is to look into the possibility of our church participating as a group in various events in South King County. These events would be opportunities for us to be together as we give back to our community. Hey, we might even wear our yellow “Standing on the Side of Love” t-shirts to these events! We have an exciting year ahead of us, full of new possibilities and the love between us all.

Among Ourselves

Congratulations to Kathy Jorgensen on her retirement in July!

Congratulations to Tom McDavid and Joy Werlink on the wedding of their son Andrew McDavid in July. Congratulations to Elissa McDavid on her election at the 2015 Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly to the UUA’s Nominating Committee. Both Andrew and Elissa grew up at Saltwater Church.

Welcome to the world Kyrja Nyx Silveira Rose! Kyjra, daughter of Quinn and Kelleen Rose and little sister Brinley, was born on July 14.

Congratulations to our Church Administrator, Sue Eaton on the birth of her first grandchild! Welcome to the world Hudson Lloyd Taylor, born on August 7.

Our Caring and Lay Ministry Teams

Both the Caring Team and the Lay Ministry Team at Saltwater Church help members of our community during difficulty, transition, and crisis. Members of the **Caring Team** can sometimes help with some of the following tasks: Bringing meals, providing emergency babysitting, providing respite care, providing transportation to medical appointments, buying/delivering groceries or other needed items, and meeting other specific, short-term needs. To contact the Caring Team, call the church at (253) 777-4994 and choose the option for the Caring Hotline or email caring@saltwaterchurch.org.

Sometimes during a time of difficulty, what a person needs most is someone to talk to. Members of the **Lay Ministry Team** can provide an ear to listen, a heart to care, and a hand to hold. They are also available to visit hospitalized or homebound individuals. To contact a lay minister at any time, call the church at (253) 777-4994 and chose the option for the Caring Hotline or email layministry@saltwaterchurch.org. You may also contact any one of the lay ministers:

- **Debra Valpey** (206) 243-5566 or debra@saltwaterchurch.org
- **Denise Yanega** (253) 838-7479 or denise@saltwaterchurch.org
- **Peggy O’Connor** (253) 839-1432 or peggy@saltwaterchurch.org
- **Mike Yanega** (253) 838-7479 or mike@saltwaterchurch.org
- **Phil Dindia** (253) 941-1106 or phil@saltwaterchurch.org
- **Lynn Crow** (253) 941-0860 or lynn@saltwaterchurch.org.

Our Serving Community

Saltwater Church Sound Alliance

By Susan Aigner, Core Team
Co-Chair



Our Saltwater Church Sound Alliance Team was very busy this summer!

The **FEDERAL WAY DAY SHELTER** project now has a site for a temporary facility. They are working to solidify sources of funding. A steering committee, including Reverend James, will make on-going decisions. Lucia Faithfull and Bob Dickinson continue to brief churches in Federal Way to make sure they know about the Day Shelter.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING Eleven members of Saltwater Church attended the King County Council meeting on July 20. Six of us spoke passionately, urging the Council to vote to put the Best Starts for Kids on the ballot for King County voters in November 2015. They must have listened, because on July 22, they did just that, and with a non-partisan vote of 8 for, 1 against!



PRESS CONFERENCE: Four Saltwater members attended County Executive Dow Constantine's Best Starts for Kids **press** conference in White Center. (See photo.)

BRIEFER TRAINING: About fifteen Saltwater Church members have been trained to brief others about Best Starts for Kids. We are now in the process of identifying potential audiences and making a schedule of briefing events.

BEST STARTS FOR KIDS BRIEFINGS: Briefings for our congregation are scheduled for Sunday, September 27, 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., Wednesday, October 7, 7-8 p.m., and Sunday, October 11, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

If you want more information about Best Starts for Kids, go to www.kingcounty.gov/beststarts.

Sound Alliance Fall Leadership Institute for Public Life

The Institute will be two Saturdays, September 26 and October 3, 9:00 a.m. —3:00 p.m. (includes lunch), at the Tacoma Dominicans; 935 Fawcett Ave, Tacoma.

For more information, contact Lucia Faithfull at lfaithfull@comcast.net, Phil Dindia at gpindia@msn.com, or Susan Aigner at susanaigner@comcast.net.

Stay tuned for more Best Starts for Kids activity this fall!

Share the Plate

By Kathy Linnell

Our Share-the-Plate program will benefit Communities in Schools (CIS) of Federal Way in September. CIS is a new recipient of our Share-the-Plate program. CIS is a non-profit that provides support to students to stay in school and addresses issues of poverty and immigration that often involve drop out.

CIS helps prevent dropouts in local schools in many ways, including the placing of mentors and of Family Outreach Coordinators in Schools. The Federal Way CIS goal is to have a coordinator in every public school in Federal Way. They currently have coordinators in ten schools. With increased funding, they can place coordinators in an increasing number of schools, helping to meet the needs of students who are at risk of dropping out.

Many Saltwater Church members have been volunteering and actively involved with Communities in Schools of Federal Way for several years.

School Outreach

By Joan Tornow



Would YOU like to volunteer at a nearby school? School Outreach is a Social Justice team because there are many families, living nearby, who are struggling with issues relating to poverty or immigration and one way to reach out to these families is to work with their children in the schools.

Parents send their children to school every day with hopes that they will have a better life than their parents. But, often these hopes are dashed as children slip through the cracks in overcrowded classrooms. It's now known that if a child is not up to speed by third grade, he or she will probably not catch up and will eventually drop out before graduating.

When children flounder and fail, this is devastating for the entire family. And, it does not make for a healthy society and economy. We are in a position to help. And, when we can provide just a bit of this 1:1 attention, we tip the scales toward a level playing field. We enhance the chances of success for these children.

Our team is here to help match members of the Saltwater community with students who could benefit from their support. Here are some of the ways that church members have been reaching out to schools and students:

- ✓ Dorothy Burt has been volunteering in the KITES program at Mirror Lake Elementary School that combines mentoring with reading assistance.

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- ✓ Pat Montgomery has been volunteering for seven years, working 1:1 with kindergarteners needing to ‘catch up to the middle.’ He also provides teacher support (copies, laminating) and helps with the kids’ favorite activity -- Recess!
- ✓ Bev Ross, Steve Ross, Joan Tornow, and Debra Valpey all continue in their 5th year of mentoring at-risk youth.
- ✓ Bob Dickinson and Kathy Brown completed their first year of mentoring.
- ✓ Bev and Steve Ross have also assisted with first and second graders needing extra help in reading.
- ✓ John Tornow completed his second year of providing 1:1 math help with small groups of 3rd graders, meeting each morning at a table just outside the classroom.
- ✓ Joan Tornow has served as a “writer-in-residence” for five years, helping students draft and revises personal essays and “publishes” them in books that can be checked out by other students.

These are just some of the ways Saltwater folks have contributed time and attention to students at nearby schools. They report that it is rewarding to see the progress students can make.

What are your interests? In a nearby school is a child, or group of children, who would benefit from even an hour a week of your time. And, all the volunteers listed above report that their work with these students is a highlight of their week.

Please consider joining School (Student) Outreach! Please contact Dorothy Burt (541) 602-3190 burt.dorothy@yahoo.com; Joan Tornow (206) 549-6252 tornows@comcast.net; or Debra Valpey (206) 953-5704 debravalpey@comcast.net

Hospitality House News

by Sherry Edwards, Hospitality House Meal Coordinator

Saltwater Church is one of twelve churches in the Burien/Des Moines area that support Hospitality House—through donations, involvement with fundraisers, and providing evening meals. Hospitality House is the only shelter in South King County for homeless women.

It is a temporary residence where women can find respite while they work on resumes, improve work and life skills to be able to live on their own, and connect with others socially.

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In July, Saltwater Church provided evening meals for a week to the women of the House. Special thanks go to Kathy Linnell, Gean Dindia, Phil Dindia, Carol Sandoval, Sue Eckersley, Amanda Radak, Meri Murphy, and Lucia Fathfull. They served beef and bean casserole, chicken cacciatore, beef stew, “butter” chicken, and bbq rib—and many delicious side dishes to accompany the main entrees.

As always, Saltwater Church received high praise for the meals provided.

The next opportunity to serve meals to Hospitality House is the week of *September 22—27*.

Follow these steps to sign up to bring a meal:

- At Saltwater Church’s website (<http://www.saltwaterchurch.org>), go to “Our Activities” at the top of the home page.
- In the drop-down menu, hover your cursor over “Social Justice” and another drop-down menu will show.
- Drag your cursor to click on “Hospitality House Volunteer Sign-up Sheet”, or go directly to <http://www.saltwaterchurch.org/hospitalityhouse>
- There you will find the form to fill in your name and contact information, as well as what you are bringing. Please be specific as to what your entrée is so other volunteers can bring a variety of main course and side dishes.
- On the sign-up sheet page, there is also a *link* for more detailed information that tells hours of operation, how to sign in, how to set up your meal at the site, and more.

Please contact Sherry Edwards, sherryedwards1949@comcast.net, (206) 271-7741, with questions or for further information.

Family Ministries

Welcome Home



Welcome back to Saltwater! Whether your summer adventures have been to distant lands or in your own backyard, welcome. Soon, at our annual ingathering, the water we have collected near and far will mingle together, representing the diversity of our community. All are welcome here. I hope that you feel welcomed, and that each of us is welcoming to others.

It is easy for a community to become insular. We gravitate towards people we are most comfortable with, people we know, or who we sense are “like us”. Being welcoming must be something we do intentionally. I think of it as a spiritual practice, one that I learn from, nurtures my soul, and helps to bless the world. Perhaps it is a spiritual practice for you too. I hope it is a practice we continue to embrace, as a community.

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I see signs that we do. Our Lighthouse building has new glass windows in its front doors, and windows in each of the classroom doors. There is a new, welcoming seating area in the entry hallway. Our main building's welcome room was expanded last year, providing much needed welcoming space. Much work was done on the grounds this summer, including updates to our playground and a new spot for picnic tables, creating a more open courtyard space between our buildings. Caring for our space communicates a message of welcome. Many thanks to those who painted, gardened, and shared carpentry skills this summer. And thank you to the folks who tidied and sorted supplies in the Lighthouse in preparation for this year. On Sunday, September 20 we will celebrate all these improvements to our church home with a welcome home party after the service.

There are plenty of ways to join in this ministry of welcoming! Sign up to be a front desk volunteer in the Lighthouse—it's a fantastic way to meet people new to our church and to get to know our children better. A job description is available on the website or in the Lighthouse. Or volunteer once a month in the nursery, helping us be more welcoming to families with very young children, and playing with babies at the same time! Invite your friends, your neighbors, and your co-workers to visit Saltwater for Sunday service or another event, such as Fellowship Night. Wear your name tag and have your children wear theirs as well—wearing name tags makes a big difference in our ministry of welcoming. Greet someone you don't know. Join one of our many small groups so that you can get to know other folks better. Above all, attend regularly, and encourage your children to do so as well.

Welcome, one and all. It is good to be together! In faith, Melinda.

Family Ministries Calendar for September

08/29/15	High School Youth orientation, painting party, and sleepover 4 p.m.-9:30 a.m.
08/30/15	Lighthouse Volunteer orientation 11:45-1:30
08/30/15	OWL information session for K-2 parents 11:45-12:30 p.m.
08/31/15	Parent Orientation for High School OWL 5:30-8 p.m.
09/06/15	Children and youth meet in the Community Room
09/12/15	Parent and Child Orientation K-2 OWL 1-4 p.m.
09/12/15	High School OWL 2-9 p.m.
09/13/15	Children and youth meet in classrooms
09/20/15	All ages meet in the sanctuary for an intergenerational worship service (Ingathering)
09/20/15	Welcome Home Party and Potluck lunch following the service
09/20/15	High School youth group meets 12-3 p.m.
9/25/15- 9/27/15	Conference for Middle School Youth, Camp Sealth
09/26/15	K-2 OWL 1-5 p.m.
09/27/15	Children and youth meet in classrooms

Middle School Conference

The Puget Sound Cluster's Annual Middle School Conference for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders will be held at Camp Sealth on Vashon Island on September 25-27. Activities including archery, boating, the challenge course, day spa, a campfire, Capture-the-Flag, rocket making, tie-dying, a talent/no talent show, evening snacks, worship times, and bringing little gifts to share at closing. Additional workshop choices may include drama, poetry writing, drawing, chess and other games, and survival classes.

To quote participants from other years, "Middle School Con Rules!" Cost is \$120 per person if received by September 4. Half-Scholarships are available. Final registration deadline is September 11. Talk to Melinda Einander, Director of Family Ministries for more information or to register.

Thank You to All Who Volunteered with Children and Youth This Summer

This summer, our children enjoyed visits from Unitarians and Universalists from history and our youth learned about the diversity of beliefs among our congregants. Thank you to all who led activities with the children: Courtney Eriksen, Lisa Key, Delfina Tucker, Leanne LaFramboise, Art Anderson, Carol Mitchell, Sandra Petschek, Saphronia Young, Janeane Weprin, Echo Allen, Janeira St. Clare, Karen Lomboy, Steve Ross, Galen Guffy, Debbie Latimer, Steve Radak, Aida Sanchez-Vela, Aaron Sperry, Kat Sperry, Susan Aigner, Lucia Faithfull, and Serena Spaulding. Thank you to our youth advisors, and all who shared with the youth: Amanda Radak, Kat Sperry, Kelsha Morris, Pat Montgomery, Joanne Engel, Art Anderson, Topher Benum, Bob Loeliger, Nancy Corr, Echo Allen, Daniel Key, Judy Featherstone, and Diane Schairer. A big thank you to youth who led games for the group: Chrissy, Matt, Kathryn, Isaac, Jim, Bradley, Shaylin, Lexi, and Aiden. Thank you to Mary Peterson for filling in as summer supervisor on the Sundays that Director of Family Ministries Melinda Einander was away, and to Ann Laurel for her dedication to our nursery children. Thank you all for making our summer classes a great success!

Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 2015-2016

Saltwater will be offering Kindergarten-Second grade and 10-12 grade Our Whole Lives (OWL) programs this year.

The 10-12 grade program deals with not only the physical aspects of sexual development, but the emotional and social aspects as well. The parent orientation for the 10-12 grade program will be held Monday, August 31, 5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. at the Radak's home. This meeting is MANDATORY for participation. Please RSVP to Steve Radak by August 26 if you plan to attend the parent orientation.

The Kindergarten -Second grade program gives participants age-appropriate information on family structures, good touch/bad touch, and information on where babies come from. A parent information session for grades K-2 will be held August 30, 11:45-12:30 p.m. And the mandatory Parent/Child orientation session will be September 12, 1-4 p.m.

Continued on the following page...

If you are interested in having your child or youth participate or have questions, please contact one of the facilitators listed below. Children and youth from outside our church are welcome to participate, so please share this information with other families you know who might be interested.

Kindergarten-Second grade

Aaron Sperry (decksnipe@gmail.com), (757) 339-3632

Sandra Petschek (snptk@concast.net), (253) 630-1350

10-12 Grade

Steve Radak (scradak@gmail.com), (206) 579-5333

Kathy Jorgensen (kjorgensen@juno.com), (253) 859-8349)

From the Board

The 2015-2016 Board Election of Officers

The Board held its first meeting of the new church year on July 7, 2015. Among other business, the new Board addressed the election of officers for the 2015-2016 term. Sharon Crow was elected Board President, Lisa Key was elected as Vice President, and Echo Allen was elected as Board Secretary. The Board nominated Gaye Greeves to serve as treasurer, and she has graciously agreed to serve again this year. (Thank you, Gaye!). Newly elected Board members Aaron Sperry, Quinn Rose and Saphronia Young also attended.

Members of the congregation are always welcome to attend Board meetings, held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on second Tuesdays, and are invited to review the minutes of meetings and the agendas for upcoming meetings on the church website, <http://www.saltwaterchurch.org>. Board documents are found under the tab "Members," then select "Congregational Documents" and then navigate to "Team Documents." If unable to locate the Board agenda or minutes you wish to review, the *Search* function is very useful.

Church Life

Choir Starts September 3 – Join Now!

By Thomas Burt, Choir Director

Saltwater Choir sings two Sundays each month, on Thursday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join, and no audition is necessary. For more information, contact Tom Burt, our choir director, at [\(206\) 304-3830](tel:2063043830) or tom@saltwaterchurch.org.

We Want You for the Honey-Do Crew!

By Amanda Radak, Facility and Grounds

Our church home needs some TLC, little things, one person jobs that add up fast if only one person does them. I'd like to have about a dozen people who would be willing to put in an hour or two every other month or so, on their schedule to handle things like: a door stopper replaced, light bulb changed, make a gate close. The list is long, but the items aren't; would you be willing? Know someone who is? Do you have a unique skill you'd share?

The Facilities and Ground team has about 6 core facilities volunteers and 6 core gardens volunteers. Will you join them?

Please contact Amanda Radak, acradak@gmail.com or [206-683-1330](tel:206-683-1330) for further discussion.

Firm Foundation, Brighter Future, the Beauty of our Fundathon

By Amanda Radak

The Lighthouse improvements paid for by the 2014 Auction Fundathon are wrapping up. We have (re)built a solid foundation, brightened the hall ways with various windowed doors, and revamped the public spaces in our Religious Education space. Thank you to all the donors and volunteers who made this possible.

2015-2016 Newsletter Choice!

by Gaye Greeves, Finance Team Lead

Starting with this September 2015 issue of the Scroll you have a choice to receive the printed newsletter by mail, as we have been doing, or to receive an email with a link to the newsletter. We've had numerous people ask to get it only by email so we will see out this works out.

This is an "opt-out" situation. If you want the email notice you must send an email to Sue Eaton, Church Administrator. Be sure to put your name and email address in the body and state that you do not wish to receive the printed newsletter. She will then take you off the list that prints the mailing labels.

To continue receiving the printed newsletter through the US Postal Service you do not need to take any action.

Calling All Artists - Let's pretty up our Sanctuary

By Debra Valpey

The north wall of the Welcoming Room is begging for beauty. Please help by bringing your own personally produced artistic works to church for display (or even for sale, with 25% going to the church fund).

Requirements are:

*Please include paintings and drawings (any medium), and photography. We hope to branch out to other mediums at a future time.

*No larger than 24 by 28 inches (unless you check with us first, as we might be able to make some accommodations for larger pieces).

*A maximum of five items from each artist with items prioritized in case we run out of space and can only display some of them or decide to rotate the art

*Be willing to leave your art up until November 1.

*All art should be ready to hang with wire hangers secured to both ends of your piece (no saw tooth hangers please).

*On the back of your piece please include your name, your phone and/or email, the title of your piece, the medium you used, and the price if you wish to sell it.

*Please deliver your pieces to church on Sunday, September 6. If that is not possible, please contact Debra Valpey for an alternative time.

Calling all Fiber Artists

Our sanctuary needs your two or three dimensional fiber art and/or quilted creations for display. Think quilted pieces, embroidery, or painted fiber, or recent project.

Please contact Debra Valpey, at (206) 953-5704 or debravalpey@comcast.net. to arrange for display of your fiber art.

Save the Date Auction 2015

The Auction Team is accepting donations through Sunday September 13. Please stop by the Auction Table in the Welcoming Room on Sunday morning or visit the auction website saltwaterchurch.maestroweb.com. Consider what you would like to donate for auction. View the catalog or make a donation on line.



This is *just a sample* of the items available at the auction.

Local adventures:

- Cruise on the Sloe Tango
- Theater and Dinner Downtown
- Stay at Whistler, BC for a week

Hosted Dinners & Experiences:

- Feast of the Seven Fishes for 8
- BBQ Dinner for 8 on the Sound
- Love Unplugged - Evening of Music, Food, Games and Conversation
- Roman Dinner

Other Great Items:

- Family History Research package
- Ray Valpey exclusive tie collection
- Package of Rieki sessions
- Wild Wheat Bakery Café & Restaurant Certificate
- Maggie's on Meeker Certificate
- Mini-golf at Family Fun Center
- Skating Party for 50 at Pattison's West

Auction Tickets are now available on the auction website saltwaterchurch.maestroweb.com or you can purchase them in person on Sunday morning from an auction team member. Tickets are \$35 each and include a catered dinner, live and silent auction.

Childcare is available for \$10 per child that includes dinner and structured activities.

When you buy your tickets consider getting some for friends and neighbors. Let's share the fun. **The auction is returning to Highline College - Student Union Building.**

Saltwater Church
A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
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