



Pacific Northwest CONFERENCE NEWS

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September-November 2020

Church offers classes on racism, compassion

Magnolia UCC in Seattle is reaching out to its members and the surrounding community in various ways

Magnolia UCC has been busy during the months of the pandemic. In the summer, it rang its bell seven times at 3:30 p.m., Fridays to share a message of peace and solace to neighbors. It connects with members and the community in various ways. It engages in ecumenical outreach to support vulnerable members with food and housing. Members participated in a Black Lives Matter march after the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Then in June, about 20 members of the church and community joined an eight-week class led by the senior pastor, Marci Scott-Weis, on Dismantling Racism, followed by an eight-week Compassion Cultivation Training course during the election season.

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Magnolia UCC members join in community Black Lives Matter march in the summer.

Photos courtesy of Magnolia UCC

Board prioritizes anti-racism, relationships, communication

By Hillary Coleman - moderator

This summer has seemed to fly by, and I continually find myself wondering what day of the week/what month it is. I'm sure many of you can relate. These times of COVID sure are weird, trying, unknown and unfortunately not going away. COVID has quickly transitioned all our daily lives, as well as how many aspects of the work in our Conference is done.

I am also going through a number of personal transitions (most of which were planned). Shortly after COVID began I transitioned into being your Moderator in April, moved in May, got engaged in June, finished six years working at the Coalition on Homelessness in August, and I am starting at UW Evans School

Board sets goals for continued and new work.

for a master of public administration degree in September.

As with others in the PNCUCC, I'm dealing with all of these moments in life while also having to navigate how to connect virtually and in ways that are safe during a pandemic, while leaning into the call to be an anti-racist and speak justice in these times where it is far too clear that our systems are built on white supremacy and cause and perpetuate harm to bodies of people of color.

We need to find ways to reimagine what things can be like, recreate systems that were never rooted in valuing the lives of every person equally, and explore what reparations look like in our communities.

I am grateful for your trust in me to be a leader along with others in the PNCUCC during these times, and look forward to the actions that our conference and churches will continue to take to show God's unwavering love to the world.

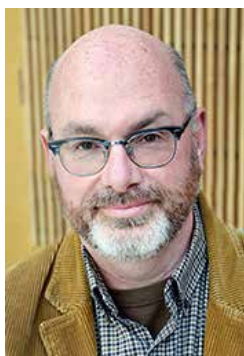
A few updates from the work of your PNCUCC Board of Directors:

As I wrote in the last PNCUCC news, our board adopted anti-racism as a priority. This is in addition to and interwoven

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How will you show God's love when you vote?

Conference Comments



By The Rev.
Mike Denton
Conference
Minister

*I'd never
seen
voting
as a
sacred
act of
stewardship
before
accompanying
South Africans
to vote in 1994.*

I was 26 years old and living in Dayton, Ohio when I met Kelvin Sauls from South Africa at United Theological Seminary.

During the time I knew him in the early 1990s, South Africa was going through an amazing, tumultuous time. The freedom struggle was at a fever pitch. Nelson Mandela was freed from prison. All races were getting ready to vote in a general election for the first time.

It seemed as though the whole country could either enter a new multiracial era or explode into violence at any moment. Every day brought news of potential hope or potential disaster.

In Kelvin's conversation with fellow faith-based activists in South Africa, it was clear how much fear there was and how much was at stake. White nationalist South Africans were organizing in new ways, arming themselves, and threatening violence against anyone who wasn't white or wasn't "on their side."

There were even threats made internationally to those who were voting at polling stations set up in different parts of the world.

We pulled together a couple of things in response to Kelvin's colleagues' requests.

The first was something called "The Prayer and Pen Campaign." African-American churches that had been involved in securing the right to vote for African-Americans were invited to write letters of support that were distributed to and read from the pulpits of Black South African churches every Sunday before the election.

Columbus, Ohio was only an hour or so away from Dayton and happened to be one of the international polling stations for South Africans in the U.S.

We decided to pull together a press conference at the state capital and march to the polling place in solidarity with those South Africans who were planning on walking miles to the polls in South Africa.

On April 26, 1994, we gathered for

speeches, songs and singing the South African National Anthem with dozens of citizens who were getting to vote for the very first time and supporters from all over the state. We took an excited walk to the polling place.

I remember hearing from behind me the conversation between two people whose every other sentence seemed to be some version of "I can't believe this is actually happening!" As we got to the polling place, those preparing to vote grew silent. No one but South African citizens were allowed into the polling place and, one by one, they nervously entered.

Then... One by one, they emerged. The first person came out with the biggest smile I've ever seen and a tear or two.

Then they kept on coming and as they did the cheering grew and the laughing grew and tears flowed and the songs began and the dancing started and Freedom itself seemed to weep, laugh, sing and dance. It was a holy, sacred moment of exuberance...

Voting has never meant the same to me since that moment. I think I'd had some idea of voting as a responsibility and a right but, until that moment, I'd never seen it as a sacred act of stewardship.

Voting is not just something I have the right or responsibility to do but it is something I *give*. It is not just about what I *want* but what I am called to *share* with the world.

As I write this, it is just a little less than two months from election day.

I won't tell you who or what to vote for but I would remind you that your vote has within it power, responsibility, service, love and freedom. Those things are sacred.

We are stewards of sacred things; never owners. As Christians we are called to use these sacred things for sacred purposes.

How will you show love to God and God's people when you vote? How will you encourage others to do the same?

PNC online meetings listed

Details on online meetings for the PNC are under events at pncucc.org.

Our Faith Our Vote is at 1:30 p.m., Mondays.

Worshipping Together When We Can't Be Together is from 1 to 2:30 p.m., second and fourth Wednesdays.

Courtney's Community Office Hour is from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays. She also has an Office Hour from 2 to 3 p.m., Thursdays.

Pastoral Care: Care During an Outbreak is from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., first and third Wednesdays.

The Rocky Mountain Conference has arranged a weekly meeting for **Children and Youth Ministers** at 1 p.m. PDT, Wednesdays on Zoom.

Plymouth UCC in Seattle has arranged a **Weekly Youth Check-in**, at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays with Anna Colwell and the Rev. Kevin Bechtold.

The Moderators Meeting is 7 to 8:30 p.m., Thursdays.

Church Administration and Fiduciary Considerations meets from 1 to 2:30 p.m., Fridays.

There is also a **Fun Friday Pastors Hour** from 4 to 5 p.m. Fridays.

For links, email Arlene@pncucc.org.

Interfaith Mourning Vigils planned during October

The Faith Action Network is part of a national group pulling together a national time of mourning in October. It is recruiting churches to hold ecumenical services of mourning as part of "The Mourning Project: Moving into Unity: United We Stand – Divided We Fall."

The Mourning Project is a national, interfaith series of four weekly vigils in October to mourn the now nearly 200,000 dead and other losses from the pandemic: unsafe schools, unsafe workplaces, unemployment to reclaim unity and commitment to peaceful elections and to defusing the risk of violence.

Peaceful candlelight vigils led by faith and health care leaders will be held outdoors with social distancing and masks. Some may join in parked cars or from

home by social media.

The Mourning Project will provide 200 purple masks—the traditional color of mourning and a combination of red and blue—for the first 10 locations.

The idea is that collective grieving can serve as an antidote to rising violence and lament can be a call for God to bring forth justice, paraphrasing Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann, "Together let us cry for the justice and wellbeing God intends in our world."

Mike Denton said in a recent email that 12 UCC churches are participating.

Building Church Differently sets three webinars

Three webinars are scheduled on "Building Church Differently—Partners in Building Event" on Sept. 17, 24 and Oct. 1.

It is offered by the UCC Church Building and Loan Fund under its new brand, "Building Church Differently."

For information, contact https://who-va.com/portal/registration/partn_202009/.

Communities of Practice are set for clergy enrichment

The 2020-21 Communities of Practice program will begin virtually on Oct. 1 with participants from the Montana-North Wyoming Conference and the Central Pacific Conference of the UCC. Some groups will be virtual even if COVID restrictions allow in-person gatherings.

Communities of Practice (CoP) are for clergy in local churches and specialized ministries, participating in small support and learning groups. CoP is based on a model developed by the Massachusetts UCC Conference to bring clergy together to look at what they are doing in ministry, to engage in peer learning and to reflect on their work.

The Rev. Brigitta Remole will be shepherding the program this year.

Participants need to register with \$50 due on registration by Oct. 12 at Ultra Camp and \$225 due by March 1, 2021. PNC clergy needing assistance with funding can request it from Mike Denton at mike@pncucc.org or Cameron Sharp at revsharp13@comcast.net.

For information, email brigitta.ucc@gmail.com.

Environmental Justice Team supports voter project

The Conference Environmental Justice Team invites persons and congregations in the PNC to become involved in the Environmental Voter Project (EVP).

It's aim is to persuade environmentally passionate people to vote, said Roberta Rominger, pastor of the Congregational Church of Mercer Island.

"Statistics show that many of them don't. This has effects, not only on the outcome of elections, but on policy decisions. Politicians shape their agendas around the concerns of reliable voters," she said.

The EVP targets 12 states where turnout among environmentalists is particularly poor, reaching out to them through texting and phone calls. This is nonpartisan. The EVP never endorses candidates or supports initiatives on the ballot. They simply offer information and encouragement, she said.

On Aug. 5, the EVP sent 500,000 text messages to Florida residents to urge them to sign up for vote-by-mail. The PNC Environmental Justice Team committed to send 25,000 of them.

"This is a prelude to the millions of potential voters we'll reach out to in the fall," said Roberta.

For information, email roberta.rominger@ucc-ccmi.org or visit www.environmentalvoter.org.

New Pilgrims UCC holds anti-racism book study

As part of its commitment to be the church by rejecting racism, New Pilgrims UCC in Anacortes is participating in an ecumenical discussion of Ibram X. Kendi's book *How to Be an Antiracist* with Celebration Lutheran Church of Anacortes via Zoom.

The book discussion group has migrated to Zoom during the pandemic, and they expect to widen their views by sharing in antiracist work with another congregation.

They are meeting weekly from 2 to 3 p.m., Mondays, beginning Sept. 14, said Becky Withington pastor.

For information on the Zoom meeting ID, email bwithing@comcast.net.

Conference
News
Briefs

Magnolia UCC finds many virtual ways to act

Continued from page 1

On the bell ringing, The Queen Ann News reported that Magnolia resident Don Ross, chair of the King County Medical Society's Mental Health Society, proposed ringing the bell to uplift people, because when he was growing up, church bells made him feel "hopeful and connected to the greater good."

Magnolia keeps in touch through use of Zoom and Facebook Live, worshipping virtually since the first week of March.

"We've had anywhere from double to 10 times the people since we've gone virtual," said Marci, noting that people who have moved away have become involved again, calling in from around the country.

She uses Zoom to serve communion to members and to check in with them twice a week, as well as to teach a class on the Book of Revelation to dispel myths and misunderstandings, especially during COVID-19, said one article.

Queen Anne and Magnolia have not let the coronavirus pandemic keep them from serving people in need, along with their parishioners.

Magnolia UCC (MUCC) and Queen Anne Lutheran Church have combined support of members to serve vulnerable neighbors.

MUCC has raised funds for different organizations in a "Help Us Help Our Community" campaign.

Each month they have mobilized to help a different partner each month.

The church and community collected and delivered more than 1,500 pounds of food for the Ballard Food Bank. They collected towels, puzzles, adult coloring books, cards and craft supplies for residents of Compass Housing Alliance, transitional housing and services for people emerging from home-

lessness.

MUCC also held a gardening drive, collecting plant starts, garden tools and soil for Interbay Village and a grocery drive for Queen Anne Helpline.

Church members joined about 100 people marching in a silent protest in Magnolia in conjunction with an event organized by Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County to honor black lives lost across the nation following the May 25 death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and demand an end to institutionalized racism.

Marchers, most masked, carried signs and marched along a route from the Magnolia Community Center several blocks and back to it.

Commenting to the *Queen Anne News* on her participation in a rainy day, during COVID-19, Marci said: "I think that all white people have an obligation right now to use their voices and their bodies in the work of racial reconciliation, and to me that is holy work and sacred work."

She said there is need for white people to work to undo the systems of racism and identify their complicity.

In June, Marci began teaching an eight-week class on Dismantling Racism, which completed phase one and has moved into phase two of implementing individual plans each of the participants developed to carry out over the coming year.

The plans involve commitment to a spiritual practice, identifying and following on social media a local black leader, identifying and supporting with time, talent and donations a black organization, and identifying a stretch goal to take on racist behaviors they encounter, said Marci.

Participants meet each month to report back on their follow-up.

• "They are following black public leaders on social media,



Members share concerns with the community.

YouTube and their writings to increase their awareness of the experience of black people," she said.

• They are following such groups as the Equal Justice Initiative, Campaign Zero, Mary's Place, William Barber and the Poor People's Campaign, WA Bloc.org.

A Black Lives Matter sign the church had set up in its yard was vandalized in early September. The church council is deciding next steps on how best to respond to the vandalism.

• Then, to meet the divisive rhetoric and uncertainty of the election weeks, Magnolia UCC began Compassion Cultivation Training to offer virtually to community, congregation and PNC conference participants awareness of how to cultivate compassion.

Marci learned of the course, developed at Stanford University, from Meighan Pritchard, pastor at Prospect UCC in Seattle.

"The hope is that each of the 25 participants will spread compassion within their com-

munities through six steps," she said.

Those steps include settling one's mind and becoming more aware to practice loving-kindness and compassion for a loved one and for oneself. They also include embracing shared common humanity and developing appreciation for others; cultivating compassion for others, practicing active compassion, and integrating that practice daily.

The course includes lecture, discussion, listening and communication exercises, and assignments to help participants practice compassionate thought and action.

The classes on Zoom from 1 to 3 p.m., Mondays from Sept. 28 to Nov. 16, are instructed by Diane Hetrick, who is certified as a Compassion Cultivation Training Teacher at Stanford and certified in mindfulness facilitation training through the Mindfulness Awareness Research Center (MARC) at UCLA.

For information, call 206-283-1788 or email marci@magnoliaucc.org.

Moderators share insights for traveling through COVID

The last Wednesday of April, Vince Larkin, moderator of All Pilgrims Christian Church UCC/DOC in Seattle, received an email about a weekly meeting for congregation moderators that Courtney Stange-Tregear, PNC minister of church vitality, in March.

Curious about how others were traveling through COVID with their congregations, he joined that Thursday evening and discovered “a group of committed leaders, filled with wisdom, seeking to navigate challenges and celebrate successes,” he said.

As time went on he found new friends whose presence was a touchstone for his week. Courtney’s goal as convener is to address moderators’ need for support and resource sharing. Wendy Blight is note taker.

Vince knew he had new friends when one reached out to him at the death of their father, seeking ideas on how to remember and celebrate his life given restrictions on gatherings. His career is in the funeral business and he has been manager since 2007 of Acacia Memorial Park and Funeral Home, where he has met the impact of COVID-19 as people seek ways to grieve, remember and honor family and friends who die.

He understood the difficulty for families losing loved ones in these times, but is glad the Governor set clear limits for gatherings, because some funerals have spread COVID-19.

“The moderators’ conversations range from how to transition from in-person worship to the church’s future,” he said.

Seeking advice on how to address needed staff changes, hold virtual congregational meetings and work through conflict via zoom, moderators share their concerns and hopes, provide and receive support, pray and grow in faith. They recognize there is much work to



Vince Larkin values virtual PNC moderators meetings.

Photo courtesy of Vince Lawton

be done as their churches work to address systemic racism.

“One day, this time of physical separation will end. When that happens there will be a pull towards what was before COVID,” Vince said, “but we have an opportunity to re-imagine and rediscover what calls us to be church outside of our buildings. When it is safe, I hope to break bread and be more fully known with these new siblings in Christ,” he said.

Vince began attending All Pilgrims in 2003. He was moderator 10 years ago and has served in that capacity again for the past four years.

He grew up in the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints (LDS) in Salt Lake, but when he came out as gay, he left the church. After moving to Seattle in 1992, he met his husband in 1997. They attended the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) in Seattle for six years, before church shopping. They found All Pilgrims and liked it because it’s a mixed congregation—half gay and half straight.

“I’ve experienced God’s unconditional love. I realize God’s

loves us and there’s nothing we can do about it,” Vince said.

The church drew about 70 to 80 for worship before COVID-19. It has a committed core of 50 to 60. It’s in the heart of Capital Hill where people move in and out for work and school.

“When it came time to physically distance and go online, we found our draw was beyond Seattle, Washington and the Northwest,” Vince said.

“The church’s future will not look like it was,” he said. “Many who may have felt in the last 50 years they did not need what the church offers, may see church in different ways now, seeing need to connect to God’s unconditional love.”

All Pilgrims also affiliates both with the UCC and the Disciples of Christ, so they celebrate communion every week, the the MCC and LDS churches.

“Now we do worship virtually on Facebook live, Instagram and YouTube. After four weeks, they began pre-recording services a day or two ahead,” he said. “With pre-recorded services, I can ‘visit’ other congregations to see what they are doing.

“Online worship needs to

be visually engaging, so we use videos, other resources and speakers, along with our pastor, Greg Turk. Music ministry is also changing from singing four verses of a hymn all at once to splitting a hymn into two or more sections. With pre-recording, we can move through worship without a pause.

Instead of spending 10 minutes to pass the peace, as they did in person, they break into small groups, offered virtually on Zoom several times a week to reflect on the message.

Just as he shares his experiences, Vince learns from others how their churches are navigating being physically apart while knitting community together.

“More brains are better than one,” he said of moderators who gather. “More than 12 have participated, but don’t come every week. Those who come leave with something valuable and come back regularly. I have met people who otherwise would not be in my orbit, people from Ferndale to south of Spokane.

“COVID-19 changes how we do things and will affect future interactions, especially meeting virtually. We will think if a meeting has to be in person. While a few may have a 15-minute drive, others may drive one-and-a-half hours, making a meeting a four hour commitment. Zoom meetings take less time from other activities.

“I miss seeing people face to face, but we need to respect people’s time and not expect them to drive. It also opens us to include people not only in Seattle, but also in Tennessee or Hawaii. That can lead us to reconsider how we structure congregational life coming from anywhere, to church and going out to be church and be God’s hands and feet wherever we are.”

For information, email vince@seattlesunset.com or office@pncucc.org to be added to the moderators meeting.

'Changing Lives, Changing Times'

Donations 360+ donors exceed campaign goal

The PNC camps, N-Sid-Sen and Pilgrim Firs, recently completed a successful \$400,000 campaign to offset budget losses from COVID-19 cancellations.

More than 360 donations to the campaign, "Changing Lives, Changing Times," brought in more than \$418,000 so far, said Wade Zick, managing director of Pilgrim Firs, and Mark Boyd, managing director of N-Sid-Sen.

The campaign strategy was to build "a great team," share stories, be transparent, ask and thank.

The first task was to assemble a campaign team, a group who could respond quickly, had passion for the camps, understood the importance of the campaign, had some financial development experience and were ready to dive in. The team included five conference members and five staff: Margaret Swanson and Eric Johnson, co-chairs, Don Mallett, honorary chair, Chris Berry, Mike Denton, James Krick, Alice Ling, Ron Patterson, Kevin Peterson, Kyna Schilling, Andy Warren, Mark and Wade.

They did an incredible amount of work behind the scenes, Mark and Wade said.

Second, and most important aspect of the campaign was in telling the story and impact of how camp experiences change lives. Young adults who grew up going to camps produced a video, inviting people to share their stories. More than 30 from churches and partner groups shared in the campaign video.

They collected numerous stories of how camp has changed many lives through the years and shared them in the campaign video that tells



Camp Campaign organizers share their gratitude in a thank-you video

why camp is so important to so many. The video is at <https://vimeo.com/431087742>.

The third strategy was transparency about the financial impact of COVID-19, making the campaign's timing "a unique giving moment," Wade said. The two camps faces a combined projected budget shortfall of more than \$400,000.

The board of directors approved a campaign for that amount and kicked it off with the first \$200,000 to be matched by gifts from campers, supporters, partner user groups and others receiving the appeal letter. Organizers overcame the hurdles of having no donor list or recent history of asking for camps.

Fourth was the ask, starting with a silent campaign approaching prospective major donors (\$5,000 or more)—individuals, churches and partner groups, with a goal of securing \$60,000 from that phase. Close to \$80, was raised from the leadership donors.

They included the Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC, the Puget Sound Guitar Workshop, the Lady of the Lake Dance Camps, First Congregational Church in Forks,

the Summer Acoustic Music Camp, Carol and Ed Coleman, Ruth Cannon, the Hainer Foundation, the Inland NW Sufi Camp, First Congregational Church in Bellevue and an anonymous family.

Finally, there were the thank yous. Letters went out within a week of any gift and every donor who gave \$250 or more received a phone call from camp directors. Donors of \$1,000 or more were called by the conference minister.

"We thanked all of the more than 360 donors with form letters, hand written notes and many calls," said Mark and Wade. "This was a time of deep gratitude for us all, because as we thanked folks for their donations, they thanked us for our quick response, phone calls and letters. Most important, they let us know how grateful they were for the camps and to be part of the campaign, to give back to something that meant so much to them."

The campaign team also created a thank you video: <https://vimeo.com/452718846>.

"It means we will not end year in financial stress, have to raise rates or cut staff," said Mark.

Wade added that "the mission to change lives continues. Even though we were not physically together, we shared stories of what a difference camp has made in our lives."

"We are saying thank you for an amazing response to our Changing Lives, Changing Times Camp Campaign. The donors helped us achieve and surpass our \$400,000 camp campaign goal," they said.

Because of COVID-19, the Pacific Northwest Conference was not able to do camp as usual this year and the budget projections were not good.

"We went to our churches, camp supporters, church members and partner groups to help us in this time of financial stress and they responded with amazing generosity," the team said. "Thank you to all those who gave so generously."

The campaign team said that it's not too late to give at any time as a way to continue supporting the camps.

For information, call 208-689-3489 or 360-876-2031 or visit <https://www.facebook.com/pncucc/videos/347534136652642>. To donate, go to www.pncucc.org and click "donate" in the

Families at Camp offers new model for using camp

Families at Camp has brought 20 to 34 people each week to use N-Sid-Sen Camp and Conference Center on Lake Coeur d'Alene, with the four spaces with kitchens and four cabins almost full every weekend from May through the summer and into September.

The “campers” come as families who are “isolating” together. They spend Thursday through Monday at the camp and leaving three days in between families for managing director Mark Boyd to clean and sanitize the spaces.

Families have come from Bellingham, Bellevue, Portland, Walla Walla, Eastern Washington/North Idaho, and Montana.

“I realize it has been quieter than normal, but that’s what I needed in these crazy times,” Mark quoted one camper. “I needed to get away and be quiet.”

He has enjoyed watching youth bring their parents, who had previously not gone beyond the parking lot. They were their parents’ guides.

As summer progressed, Mark and his wife, Julie, began to hold socially distanced conversations with families on the porch of Stillwater Lodge.

“We shared about camp experiences, the history of the camp and built relationships with the people,” he said.

Among the families who came were people who usually come to the dance camp, and people from conference churches.

Since funds for other staff ran out, Mark has been the only staff there. So he stopped providing pizza, lasagna, chili, brownies, cornbread or other



Tenter uses one of two new tent platforms at N-Sid-Sen, built with wood from Cabin 8, which was damaged by a fallen tree.

Photo courtesy of Mark Boyd

“take-out” food, he left for campers in the kitchens.

Mark said there are still some openings some weekends in October and November.

“This spring and summer have been about constant adjustment. Usually we have a lot of people here and a lot of activity, and I’m involved. I thought I’d have time, but I have less time,” he said.

The Camp Campaign succeeded in reaching the goal and exceeding it, raising \$200,000 for each camp, which will keep N-Sid-Sen and Pilgrim Firs going through June 2021 in terms of covering taxes, lights and utilities, and Mark’s salary. That’s less than half of the normal income of \$460,000 in 2019.

Other UCC camps around the nation, including Camp Adams in Oregon and Pilgrim Cove in Idaho, are struggling. Some camps have been closing.

So Mark feels fortunate that in the PNC conference the camps are doing well because

the conference, churches and communities love and care for the camps.

“We see what is happening with other camps and use it as a mirror to see what we need to change and what we need to do to be more equitable,” he said. “We are also doing things at our camps to be of value to the local communities, such as the use of Pilgrim Firs as a quarantine center and N-Sid-Sen as the site for a fire department boathouse.”

Mark said the “Families at Camp” will likely continue in the future to help use the camp to capacity, filling it on weekends that are not full. He is uncertain if the camp will operate at capacity in 2021, because of the economy and lingering concern about COVID-19.

Mark has also been glad that local first responders have accepted the invitation to wander the trails and use the beaches.

“They deserve it with all their work on putting out small

fires around the lake,” he said.

One summer project has been to use the lumber from cabin 8, that was destroyed when a tree fell on it, to build two tent platforms. In the fall, he hopes to secure a contractor to rebuild cabin 8.

Being the only staff at the camp proved to be a challenge on Labor Day during a wind storm that brought in higher waves than he had ever seen. At 7 a.m., he found the boat, which had been tied four ways was tied only with one line attached, so he got more ropes and secured it, but in the process smashed three fingers between the boat and dock, breaking one.

Just as he was tying down the boat, he heard a snap, and the long swim dock broke loose from the float with the diving board and the shore. So his next task was to secure that.

“Many people along the shore lost docks and boats in that storm,” he said. “I have not seen winds like that since I’ve been here.”

When he went to drive to urgent care in Coeur d’Alene for his finger, he found a tree was blocking the driveway. He had to clear that before going.

The following week, he repaired boards and the frame on the boat slip dock. He needs to repair the swim dock, which is usually stored for the winter in the boat slip.

While generally isolated, Mark and Julie have found virtual church services a way—if the internet is working—to go to different churches

For information, call 208-689-3480, email mark@n-sid-sen.org or visit www.n-sid-sen.org.

Wade Zick tells of running quarantine camp

Recently Wade Zick, managing director at Pilgrim Firs Camp and Conference Center, shared his experienced running and living on-site daily at Pilgrim Firs since it has become a COVID-19 quarantine camp.

Pilgrim Firs, 90 wooded acres located three miles from Port Orchard, is one of two quarantine and isolation centers set up by Kitsap County in March 2020 for people exposed to or testing positive for COVID-19. It opened on April 13 and accepts patients referred by health care providers or public health officials in the county.

A bulletin of the Kitsap County Emergency Operations Center describes the program.

The center provides the county a way to slow the spread of COVID-19 by providing a safe place for people who are sick or exposed to stay apart from others. It protects the community and keeps hospital beds available for those who need them most, said Kitsap public health district administrator Keith Grellner.

He explained the difference between isolation and quarantine. Isolation is for people exhibiting symptoms or testing positive. Quarantine is for people who are well but may have been exposed. Some need alternative housing to protect family and others from infection.

At Pilgrim Firs, separate cabins keep those in isolation apart from those in quarantine. Those using the temporary center are those most likely to have been exposed, like first responders and health care workers.

A team of health, social services and emergency management personnel make the centers supportive, safe and secure. Medical support is available on site, but patients care for themselves. Necessities are provided, so patients don't need to leave the grounds. Anyone who does is not readmitted. Staff and security personnel are on site 24



Pilgrim Firs sign announces guests in quarantine center.

Photo courtesy of Wade Zick

hours.

That's the setting in which Wade has been working.

"First, it's pretty weird. Second, it can be scary. Third, it is super frustrating. Lastly, it is boring," he summed up.

It's weird that just a few hundred yards away on-site is someone positive with COVID with their infant. It's not like they come over for conversation or to have coffee in the morning in the dining hall.

Guests are in their housing, especially if not feeling well, or walking on the trails.

"It's weird seeing ambulances on site with frequency bringing and dropping off guests. It's weird seeing the county volunteers in full PPE in our golf carts around camp," Wade said. "It's weird that in many ways, we have adjusted to living on site where people are positive or awaiting, with tons of anxiety, their COVID test or results."

It can be scary. COVID is present in a daily way and not simply through the county count of positives or because of wearing an inconvenient mask at the store.

"I don't get to live in denial of COVID being really nasty,

because I'm in fear of it every day as it lives near us," he said. "I don't get to interact with others and not remember I live at a COVID site—even though I'm extremely safe.

"It's just plain scary. I see the number of 188,000+ dead and don't think about the pre-conditions or age that may have contributed," Wade said. "I see our guests and I am scared for them being added to that count because you never know."

It's frustrating as he goes out into the wider world and sees many folks who have decided it's not really a big deal.

"They wear masks under their nose and some not at all. They decide being within six feet of me is perfectly fine for them, but don't realize it's not okay with me," he said.

"I get frustrated when people complain about economic impacts and dismiss the reality of people being really sick and dying. I get frustrated when churches and schools decide to gather in person rather than be safer and utilize technology. I get frustrated when our politicians don't talk about how bad this really is for people—even those who are not positive."

He is also frustrated when

he walks around and knows Pilgrim Firs has guests because some people did not take precautions seriously.

Wade is also quite bored because of the whole thing.

"I want camps back of 140 hippie guitar players, rather than nine COVID guests. I want folks to chat with in the dining hall rather than someone who I wave at across the field. I want something more exciting than packing a toiletry kit or a welcome snack bag for a new guest.

"I am bored of a virus that scares me and that has changed everything I am doing and all the financials surrounding it. I am bored of no vacations and having few friends over with lots of weird restrictions," Wade continued.

"I'm bored of people who decide talking about race is more about one's political affiliation than a pivotal historical moment, where our shared experience of humanity becomes more equal," he asserted.

"I'm bored of staying home rather than risking being one of our COVID guests, yet, I mostly stay home," he said.

So, for the last almost six months, he has run and lived at a COVID camp and is just sharing his thoughts.

He knows his life is probably like many and not at all like most.

"Please know I believe my privilege in running the COVID camp is immense," Wade said, clarifying that his sharing was not meant to be complaining.

"I have much to be grateful for but also am in a weird space and thought sharing might be interesting to someone," he said. "Maybe it's mostly cathartic for myself, however.

In any case, he closed with a message of love and advice: "Wear a damn mask. Stay six feet away from others. Don't become one of my guests!"

For information, call 360-876-2031 or visit pilgrim-firs.org.

Walla Walla church begins to act on anti-racism statement

On June 10, Walla Walla First Congregational UCC published a statement on antiracism, nonviolence and police reform in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd and the rising concern about racism.

“We involved many from the church leadership committees so we could have a robust conversation with voices to represent the church and engage in an honest way on racism,” said Nathaniel Mahlberg, pastor.

Church leaders signed it and shared it in the PNC as a model to inspire other churches to develop statements.

“We used a combination of Zoom meetings and email chains. It was productive conversation, but was not at all easy,” he said.

One commitment from the process is to offer four six-week study groups beginning in October on “White Privilege: Let’s Talk,” the national UCC curriculum, which some members studied three years ago.

The course invites participants to consider next steps and commitments they can make.

“We have sent invitations to church members and beyond the church walls—which we don’t have now,” Nathaniel said. “I’m heartened by the interest in the community.”

He reported on engagement by church and community members with the police department and city council to address policies, procedures and budgeting.

“Protests continue and it’s significant how it is a sustained effort now of young activists of color, not the usual social movement folks,” he said.

Nathaniel has been involved with a series of virtual town halls with the city council on reforming policing. He spoke at one.

“There have been modest reforms. The police chief agreed to adopt some improvements in use of force, not all eight of the proposals. He agreed to a



Nathaniel Mahlberg, pastor, is offering “Drive-by Blessings” at a safe social distance from 10 to 10:45 a.m., Sundays, as the “Masked Reverend.” He stands at the church’s parking lot entrance, wearing a face mask. Parishioners come by in their cars with family—wearing face masks and staying in their cars. In keeping with guidelines from Governor Jay Inslee and in consultation with medical professionals, he said, “We are committed to doing church in a safe and responsible way,” recognizing that things will not return to normal for a good while yet, and churches should not push to reopen. The church’s website includes an archive of worship service videos.

Photo courtesy of the Walla Walla First Congregational UCC website

conversation around differentiated call response, strengthening police response with social service response if armed police response is not necessary, as with homeless people or those suffering a mental health crisis.

“We will see how that develops. There is promising engagement with growing crisis response capacity to reduce risk of violent escalation,” Nathaniel said. “We will see if the budget for police response will be reduced and redirected for other response.”

Town hall meetings also addressed concern about police officer Nat Small’s tattoo from his time as a Marine Scout Sniper, commemorating a friend killed in Afghanistan in 2010. It includes a double lightning bolt “SS,” a symbol used by the German Nazis and now a neo-Nazi symbol. Marines denounced it in 2012.

In June, a national civil rights organization, threatened to sue the city if the tattoo wasn’t removed or altered, or the officer removed from the police force. A July 9 Union Bulletin article said the officer will remove the double S.

Nathaniel shared the church’s statement “Committing to Antiracism, Nonviolence and Police Reform”:

“As people of faith and disciples of Jesus, our community at First Congregational Church of Walla Walla stands with those struggling for racial justice who are speaking out about racism and White supremacy in our culture and institutions. We declare that Black lives matter.

“We share the grief over the violent death of George Floyd, and of many other unarmed Black, Brown, and Indigenous people who have died at the hands of those we entrust to provide fair and equal protection under the law. Our faith compels us to confront racism as a false idol and a force that crucifies.

“We know God’s grace,

as a gift, is free, but not cheap. It calls us to a change of heart and of actions, seeing clearly the role of sin in ourselves and our society. We are humbled to acknowledge the sin of racism and White supremacy in ourselves, in our institutions and in our country’s living history. We seek, with God’s help and with the confidence that nothing truly separates any of us from the love of God, to do our part to overcome racism and heal injustices in our society.”

To that end, the statement expresses members’ commitment to:

- Better understand their White privilege and racism, and “address its subtle and overt manifestations in our church culture,” using the UCC curriculum on “White Privilege.”

- Support and respond to the leadership of Black and Brown people in the city and state as they develop policies to reduce the risk of police violence and increase democratic oversight and accountability.

- Find appropriate ways as a church to bring local police and political leaders into conversation with Walla Walla’s Black Lives Matter movement and Immigrant Rights Coalition, as they seek meaningful reforms and reconciliation.

- Seek peace and justice by working to reduce the level of violence in society by addressing injustices in the nation, largely impacting People of Color, by attending to “seeds of violence in ourselves, and by reducing the level of risk and stress for all, including police officers.

- Follow the Way of Jesus with integrity, “confronting forces of violence and racism with love in our hearts and with our trust centered on the God of resurrection at work through history and beyond.”

For information, call 608-469-1406, email pastor@fchurch.net, or visit firstchurchuccww.org.

Global Ministries and Stewardship News Briefs

Participants in Virtual Pilgrimage named

The Pacific Northwest Conference UCC and the Disciples of Christ Northern Lights Region Global Ministries has recruited 16 households to participate in a four-day Virtual Pilgrimage to Colombia between Sept. 21 to 26.

The pilgrimage is an event in the process of exploring a partnership with the UCC and DOC partner organizations in Colombia, Justapaz, the Mennonite Center for Justice Peace and Nonviolent Action, and the Peace Commission of the Evangelical Council of Colombia.

A People to People Pilgrimage proposed for September was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, so the Virtual Pilgrimage was planned as a way for participants to meet for one to two hours a day over six days—with two “down” days for guided theological reflection.

UCC participants are Rick Russell and Mary Olney-Loyd, co-chairs of the Global Ministries Committee; Meighan Pritchard of Prospect Congregational UCC in Seattle; Jan Kinney, Ed Evans of Suquamish UCC; Ruth Brandon of Everett UCC, and Steve Claggett of All Pilgrims UCC.

Disciples participants are Dick Cunningham of Queen Anne Christian Church, Seattle; Wayne Daly, All Pilgrims in Seattle (DOC and UCC); Janet Larson and Adam Janes from Othello Christian Church; Sandy Messick, Northern Lights regional minister, in Spokane; Bill and Connie Roby, First Christian Church, Puyallup; Gloria Soja, First Christian Church, Helena, Mont., and Annette Bratke, Grand Avenue Christian Church, Bozeman, Mont.

Hosts in Colombia have been preparing videos for the participants to see to learn about Colombia’s history, geography, culture, faith expression and current social dynamics.

When the pilgrimage is completed materials will be available on globalministries.org for others to view, said Mary.

“Our pilgrims are concerned for justice in that region, as our Colombian partners are sharing their stories of trying to help implement the Peace Accord Agreement made in 2016,” said Rick.

For information, call 206-999-6968 or email myrtos@comcast.net, or call 206-363-1438 or email maryolneyloyd@gmail.com.

Bob Porter translates book on Sri Lankan refugee

Robert Porter, a retired teaching missionary in Sri Lanka, has translated the book, *The Foreign German, Living Between the Cultures*, from German to English. It is the story of Umeswaran Arunagirinathan, a Tamil war refugee who came to Germany as an unaccompanied 12-year-old boy and successfully blended in.

He narrates his way from being a refugee who used the underground to escape Sri Lanka, learns German, succeeds in school and becomes a physician heart surgeon, as well as a German citizen.

In doing so, he also tells of the potential expectations and challenges of the process of integration. He also deals with way of life and culture of his country of origin. The author asks German people for better understanding of refugees and encourages refugees to integrate into German society.

Bob, a member of Northminster Presbyterian in Seattle, has served on the PNC-DOC Global Ministries Committee, joining PNC partnership visits in Germany and teaching English in Seoul, South Korea.

For information, call 206-706-5693.

Stewardship reports, plans Stewardship Revival

Kendall Baker, chair of the Stewardship Committee, recently shared about their activities including a Stewardship Revival, “Unbroken Together: The Power of Generosity,” at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept 22.

“In the middle of a time of great need, sometimes it’s easy to forget we have much to offer and much to share,” said Kyna Shilling, who is helping with publicity. “Generosity is at the heart of who God calls us to be and what’s something to celebrate.”

The “revival” will be a worship service to lift up ways members are called to give, to celebrate hope and share resources to help local churches in stewardship.

The Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, the UCC’s associate general minister for Wider Church Ministries and Operations and co-executive for Global Ministries, will be the preacher. The link is <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1489507740> or by phone at 623-404-9000.

The Stewardship Committee is responsible 1) for budget development, financial oversight and care of property—like the

camps—and 2) to provide resources for churches and communicate with pastors and church leaders on ways to support the PNC financially, such as through OCWM.

“As we prepared to launch a new program year, the pandemic blindsided us, and our best laid plans had to be put aside as we developed new strategies appropriate to these challenging times,” Kendall said.

There are two subcommittees: Finance and Interpretation. Diana Kutas chairs Finance, which addresses concerns in #1. Ron Patterson chairs Interpretation, addressing concerns in #2.

The full Stewardship Committee convenes online every two months to coordinate the subcommittee work and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Because of financial uncertainties imposed by COVID-19, the Finance Subcommittee has met monthly. It presented the Board a revised budget for the first half of this fiscal year—June through November, 2020—and is now ready to make recommendations for the last half of the fiscal year—December through May, 2021.

Kendall said the Interpretation Subcommittee has shifted its emphasis from “asking” for support of the Conference, to helping local churches plan for their future. To do that, it organized the online “Stewardship Revival” for Sept. 22.

The committee also organized and carried out the successful “Changing Lives, Changing Times” camp campaign. The Campaign Committee, chaired by Wade Zick, communicated the opportunity to support the two camps.

“Thanks to a strong response from both outside organizations that depend upon our camps, and from individuals and churches in the Conference, the goal of \$200,000 was exceeded—an amazing feat in the best of times, and extraordinary in these times of financial uncertainty,” said Kendall.

“We are encouraged by the powerful spirit in the Conference today and by the courageous hopefulness with which pastors and churches are dealing with the incredible challenges of this pandemic. These times are calling for us all to discover new muscles, new reservoirs of imagination and resolve sufficient for the day. From our perspective on the PNC Stewardship Committee, the Spirit is alive and well in our United Church of Christ,” said Kendall.

For information, call 206-550-5877 or email kendall.clark.baker@gmail.com.

Past moderator invites ‘giving from inside the cave’

Wendy Blight, past moderator of the Pacific Northwest Conference, recently submitted a stewardship reflection.

I’m going to be frank here, I have not been feeling all that generous in these days of COVID-19. My wife and I take seriously the lethality of this disease and we have hunkered down.

We are having groceries delivered and ordering supplies online. We’re talking to friends and relatives on the phone and via Zoom.

The only people I see in person are delivery drivers and the occasional neighbor when I walk to the mailbox with my mask on.

Some days I feel like I’m inside a cave peering out into the great unknown, unable to do anything that makes a difference in a world that is hurting so badly.

I know there are many layers of imagination that have been added to the Christmas



Wendy Blight

story. The version I’m thinking of today is the picture of a manger surrounded by darkness except for a single star above and the glow of love around the cradle.

The manger seems a bit cave-like to me on this day. It is not where Mary and Joseph would have chosen to be. It was what was available, and it was the shelter they needed. Here’s the passage that stood out to me today: “They (the wise people) entered the house and saw the child in the arms of Mary,

his mother. Overcome, they knelt and worshiped him. Then they opened their luggage and presented gifts: gold, frankincense, myrrh.”

The spirit of Christ is with us today just as the Spirit was with us in that manger so long ago. The presence of God is with us, in our homes and in our caves.

The spirit of Christ is alive in our communities, among protesters in the streets, with volunteers in our food pantries, and with healthcare workers and first responders.

Our monetary gifts and prayers connect and strengthen that mysterious, holy spirit that ties us all together. When we are unable to move about freely and safely, our donations make possible that which is impossible for some of us right now.

These are no small gifts. They are sacred and necessary, not just to provide essential services, but necessary for our spiritual health. These

gifts, given with intention, break open our hearts, increase our compassion and keep us involved in bringing the world one step closer to God’s imagining.

I may continue to feel that I’m in a cave at times.

I think we’re in it for the long haul with this pandemic, but I am going to work on a weekly spiritual practice of giving to things I believe in: to my church, to the UCC and to the Conference, to direct service organizations, to the Black Lives Matter movement, to climate change organizations and political efforts that reflect my faith and my values.

Will you join me? Who’s on your list? To whom do you already give and who will you add to your list? Together we can connect our gifts and prayers with the enormous and courageous power of God to make a difference.

For information, visit pn-cucc.org and click “donate.”

Pastor shares comments on Black Lives Matter

Paul Ashby, pastor at Richmond Beach UCC in Shoreline and member of the Justice & Witness Ministries Committee, recently wrote the following statement on “Black Lives Matter Since Adam and Eve.”

Long before the first letter of any scriptures were written, the first Adam and the first Eve gave birth to the human race under the blistering sun of sub-Saharan Africa. Their dark skin toiled in the soil of Africa to sweat out the daily bread that sustained all human life. Many thousands of years before human migration, they poured out their lives that we may have breath, body, skin and bone.

How can I detest the skin of my ancestors?

How can I turn my face

away from the black faces of my true parents?

How can I deny the pain and injustice imposed upon those who reflect the beauty of my Eve, my Adam?

Do we not stand by the graves of our ancestors with wreaths of honor and flowers of loving memory?

Yet I have seen Eve’s children left by police to rot on the streets of Ferguson without as much as a shroud to cover them. I have seen Adam’s sons choked to death by police on sidewalks in Baltimore and Minneapolis. The breath stolen from them by boots designed for walking on sidewalks, misused for public execution.

Yes, I bear witness to the murder of Adam and Eve’s

children shot for standing, shot for walking, shot for jogging, shot for driving and shot for parking by those hiding behind Stand Your Ground Laws and shiny jagged metal Badges.

What fears lurk in the twisted minds of gun-crazed Cains that they no longer recognized their own brothers?

What hate hides in the heart of one who drag races their muscle car over the bones, muscles and bodies in Charlottesville who cry out “Black Lives Matter!”

What contagious disease longs to spread its virus of racism when a young man with a gun rejects a loving welcome he received at a Wednesday night Bible Study at Emmanuel AME church in Charleston?

The horrors we create when we forget the faces of our first parents.

So, let us throw together makeshift Memorials multiplying across the sidewalks of our nation...Flowers, and wreaths for Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Tamir Rice, Freddie Gray, Sandra Bland, Janet Wilson, Atatiana Jefferson, Michael Dean, Ahmand Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd...

Do not walk by these cardboard markers of faces mourned so quickly, look at the cold concrete curb and notice a pool of dripped tears – the lamentations of Adam and Eve for their murdered children.

For information, call 206-533-9620 or email paul@rbucc.org.

Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness helps pass bill

Law addresses faith community response to homeless

The Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness has produced two brochures to distribute to homeless people living in their vehicles, said Bill Kirlin-Hackett, a UCC pastor who is director of the Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness.

They are explaining a recent change in the law. Bill introduced ESHB1754 five times previously.

The “Ticketing” booklet is currently in distribution within Seattle as part of its work doing the Scofflaw Mitigation Project Team. It is aimed at vehicle residents becoming informed so they do not lose their vehicles by having them impounded.

A “Safe Lot” brochure is being distributed statewide through faith partners to invite faith communities to consider doing safe parking on faith properties, given the passage of ESHB 1754 this year.

That new law gives guidelines for hosting homeless people at congregations via safe parking, indoor shelter, outdoor shelter and small houses on site.

The brochure says more than 2,700 people in King County live in cars because they are homeless. It also says rising rents are forcing more people out of their homes and most who live in their cars are

new to homelessness. The car is their last asset, getting them to work and school. It says people living in their cars need personal safety, basic amenities—bathrooms, showers, waste disposal, laundry and places to prepare and store food—relief from parking enforcement and safe places to park.

The law sets a floor for the three statewide jurisdictions, county, city and code city, above which “they cannot interfere with the religious exercise of faith toward hosting the homeless people on property owned or controlled by the faith organization in safe parking, indoor overnight shelter, outdoor managed encampments, and tiny houses on site,” he said.

The new law, which went into effect June 11, brings to bear the 2000 state Religious Land Use and Institutional Persons Act (RLUIPA), which followed and clarified religious property use on the heels of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) of 1993.

The RFRA centered protections for the exercise of faith. Some courts and authorities had said houses of worship could only be used for worship and other restrictions, Bill said.

In 2000, Congress passed the RLUIPA to address use of

property owned or controlled by faith communities. It continues the basis of its guidelines protecting religious practice and does so in light of land and property use, he explained.

It protects land use as a religious exercise, saying: “No government shall impose or implement a land use regulation in a manner that imposes a substantial burden on the religious exercise of a person, including a religious assembly or institution” without a compelling governmental interest.

Bill said that in Washington state, violations of RLUIPA were “from denial that any faith community can host those unsheltered on any portion of its property indoors or outside, or to ‘allowances’ of one faith community able to host for a term, such as one congregation every 18 months, while all others are enjoined, or to a hosting being declined when no sprinklers are installed indoors, he said.

“Basically, any faith community can host the homeless on their property without seeking jurisdictional permission,” he clarified, unless there is “a compelling governmental interest.”

The new law is a compromise that sets a consistent floor for permitting and ordinances to regulate faith communities

hosting the homeless.” Bill said. “It is conceded in most quarters that every faith community can choose to host the homeless on their property without seeking jurisdictional permission.”

The new law offers that by partnering with jurisdictions and others, services that many faith communities lack, are pathways toward moving from temporary hosting to permanently housing of unsheltered persons with other community partners. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between a congregation and a jurisdiction, may be uniquely crafted without the need for the public ordinance/permit process.

The ITFH set up some online Zoom meetings to inform people.

Another effort is the delivery of Seattle budgeted funds to the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle as host for the ITFH Scofflaw Mitigation outreach.

“These funds will allow us to do harm alleviation for repairs, tickets, tabs and other needs when we resume vehicle outreach,” he said.

The ITFH does education, advocacy and direct services to unsheltered homeless people.

For information, call 425-442-5418 or visit itfhomeless.org.

Board builds on relationships to communicate

Continued from page 1

with our existing priorities around deepening relationships around the Conference, as well as improving communication throughout the Conference.

Board members have joined together for a number of foundational conversations that deepen relationships between members of the board so that we can continue to have important, open, and hard conversations about our institution, specifically with an anti-racism lens. We are using the Lifecycle Model from

Washington Nonprofits to frame some of our conversations and at our meeting in September will be further setting goals for the coming months. We’ll be reaching out to folks around the conference with more soon.

With current times and virtual meetings, it is easier for many to connect with one another without needing to travel. We’ve seen relationships deepen in weekly calls Mike and Courtney are leading, the online worship library and through the successful Changing Lives, Changing

Times Camp Campaign.

A Communications Team has formed to improve communications and ensure that we have clear, effective communications across the conference so folks know how and where to find and share information.

The coming months will continue to be different and we are in uncharted territory. We’re seeing how different virtual learning is, how inspiring virtual worship experiences and virtual ways of connecting can be, and how much more we need to

listen to our bodies and souls when they are overwhelmed with the number of decisions that need to be made daily to stay as healthy as possible.

I look forward to connecting with more people across the PNCUCC in coming months and reimagining together what our work to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God looks like in this ever-changing world.

For information, call 206-321-4344 or email hillarycolemanucc@gmail.com.