

THE TIDINGS

Wherever you are on life's journey life's journey, you are welcome here.



Big Year Around Here

2024 is going to be a profoundly eventful year, for every American, for every member of Admiral Church, and for many of us in deeply personal ways. A divisive presidential election is on the horizon, with vengeance and stoked fears on all sides. Major decisions about the future home of Admiral Church will be completed and incorporated into the design of

Homestead's development project before the summer is over. Many members of our church will face difficult choices about housing, health, family, and finances in the year ahead. Through it all, Admiral Church will be a stabilizing and uplifting force in the lives of our community, just as it always has been.

Last month I wrote an article on what I saw as three primary motivations for church participation here at Admiral. I suppose I was hoping to spark a conversation about whether I had said something true, and if so, what kind of impact it might have on our ministries going forward. Perhaps not surprisingly, but honestly a little disappointingly, those conversations have not materialized. Consider this an invitation to re-read December 2023's cover article "*In Essentials Unity, in non Essentials Diversity, in All Things Loving-Kindness*" (you can find it on our website at www.AdmiralChurch.org under the *MEDIA* tab). After you do, shoot me a

text telling me which of the three priorities best describes you. The first 10 people to do so will win a free lunch with me at the Bebop Waffle Shop!

I believe this year will be one of concentration and focus of our collective energies. The broader culture often sees the church as irrelevant at best, and downright perverse at its worst. We know that church is just another way to say values-centered community, with Jesus standing as the cornerstone orienting it all. Knowing why we personally participate, and thinking about what calls us together, is a gateway to sharing the good news of a values-centered community with the neighborhood and the world.

In Love and Solidarity,
Pastor Andrew





Sermons, Scriptures and Music

Gathering Disciples

- Jan. 14 - Sermon: You Will See Greater Things
Scripture: John 1:43-51
Anthem: How Can I Keep From Singing?
- Jan. 21 - Sermon: Turn and Trust In the Good News
Scripture: Mark 1:14-20
Anthem: When Your Heart is In a Holy Place
- Jan. 28 - Sermon: A New Teaching - With Authority
Sermon: Mark 1:21-28
Anthem: Let Your Little Light Shine
- Feb. 4 - Sermon: Proclaim the Message There Also
Scripture: Mark 1:29-39
Anthem: In You We Are One
- Feb. 11 - Guest Preacher
Rev. Emily Tanis- Likkel
Scripture: Mark 9:2-9
Anthem: Be Thou My Vision

Church Events

- Tuesdays - Contemporary Worship 6:00
- Tuesdays in January - Birth of Jesus Bible Study 5:00
- Jan 21 - Meal and Mission 6:00
- Jan 28 - Congregational Meeting after worship
- Jan. 29 - Women Talking Film and Discussion 6:30
- Feb. 3 - Games, Games, Games 2:00
- Feb.. 6 - First Sunday Brunch after Worship
- Feb. 11 - Fat Sunday Jazz Concert and Cajun-Style Lunch after Worship

We provide nursery care Sunday mornings during the church service!

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY - If you would like a ride to any church event listed please contact Peggy Rich joyinthemorning1130@gmail.com or call (206)460-3021 and she will arrange your transportation to and from these planned events.



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

This contemporary Tuesday evening worship service will continue in 2024. If you enjoy acoustic guitar music and conversation about things that matter in your life, this may be a gathering you would enjoy! Come and find out! Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30.

Tuesday Evening SERIES: SEEK AND FIND

January 16 - The Power of Perseverance and Salvation Stories

January 23 - Personal Encounter and Transcendence of Trust

January 30 - Imitation of Christ and Relationships

February 6 - The People-Growing Machine of Love

February 13 - The Courage to Testify

MASKS NOW OPTIONAL AT ADMIRAL CHURCH



Uta is back!

**Office hours Tuesdays -
Thursdays from 1:00 -
4:00.**



**Meal and Mission
December and January**

Medical Equity: You Can Help!

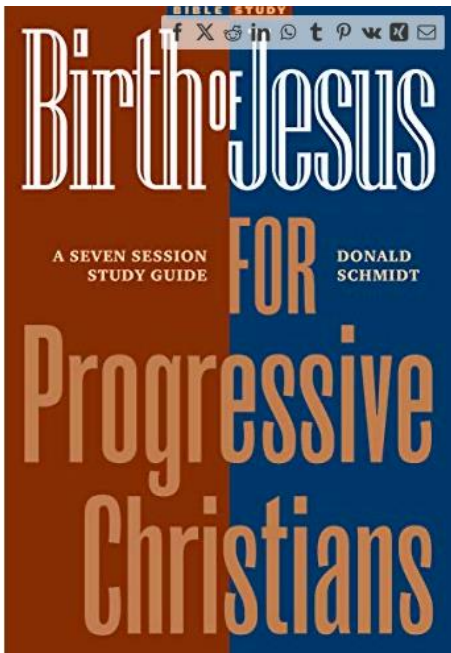
Donate medicines and medical supplies during December and January to help those who can't afford them.

December 1-January 21, Sun. 9-10am, 12-1pm
December 1-13, Tues. - Thurs. 1 - 4pm,
January 8-21, Tues. - Thurs. 1 - 4pm,

See the donation list on the church website: admiralchurch.org.

MEAL AND MISSION

Come join us for a potluck at 6:00 followed by sorting and packing up all of the donations! There are so many that we could use a lot of people to help!



FAITH JOURNEY TEAM

The book study using Rev. Donald Schmidt's short, well-researched book "The Birth of Jesus for Progressive Christians" continues through the end of January. (There's still a few copies of the book available.) The engaging hour of discussion happens Tuesdays at 5PM. See you there and *stay for contemporary worship afterwards* from 6:30-7:30pm.

Watch This Film | for your Faith Journey. Our WTF! Series continues with plans to feature a film each fifth Monday this year. Join us January 29th at 6:30PM for a screening and discussion of the highly

acclaimed 2022 movie **Women Talking**. *"Do nothing, stay and fight, or leave." The women of an isolated religious community grapple with reconciling a brutal reality with their faith.*

We're hoping to offer additional film viewing opportunities to help commemorate Lent, possibly the new season of The Chosen. Watch the Ticker to see what we're able to work out.

"Sermon talk back" returns. Look for the pastor after worship most Sundays in the fellowship lounge for discussion (pushback is welcome, though not required.)

JAMES BIX SOUTH, Team Lead



OUTREACH TEAM

Keep up the good work of bringing egg cartons and bags to be used at the West Seattle Food Bank

FELLOWSHIP TEAM

GAMES, GAMES, GAMES

Are you a gamer? Expert or beginners are welcome. Hands on boardgames, traditional games, new games, card games, whatever type of game you like to play - this is your chance to show us what you've got! Come share a fun time with church friends and their friends on the first Saturday of each month!



**Feb. 3, from 2:00 - 5:00 in
the Fellowship Hall**

Worship Team



WORSHIP SUPPORT GROUPS

There is a lot of volunteer effort involved in preparing for and accomplishing each Sunday's worship service and post-worship social and educational activities. These include preparation of the Sanctuary for worship, Greeter duties, Communion assistance, worship service assistance, coffee hour and potluck duties and clean-up/lock-up. In order to ensure that all have a chance to participate in this important work, Admiral Church members are divided into two Worship Support Groups, WSG 1 (led by Peggy Rich and Anita Shaffer) and WSG 2 (led by Laura Sutkus and Stephanie Trinneer). WSG 1 is responsible for all worship duties in even months, WSG 2 in odd months. WSG's for 2024 are as follows:

Group 1

Leaders Peggy Rich/Anita Shaffer

Wes Andersen
 Ron Alexander
 Leonette Carte
 Bridgett Chandler
 Laura Cook
 Gerry Flaten
 Kathy Forester
 Betty Hanning
 Kathy Heinemann
 Michael Henderson
 Kyla Leyendekker
 Jay Murray
 Joanne Murray
 Steve Randolph
 Tobi Stone
 Ken Kriekenbeck

Group 2

Leaders Laura Sutkus/Stephanie Trinneer

Steve Azzola
 Barbara Edwards
 Tyna Ek
 Cliff Harsant
 Jennifer McNeely
 Janice Milliman
 Susan Oatis
 Anne Muller
 Richard Muller
 Janet Noble
 Elise Piraino
 Mike Piraino
 Uta Rockel
 Marylou Santee
 James South
 Gerrie Tollenaar

And exactly what are those duties, you wonder? What is it, exactly, that needs to be done each Sunday? Well, here you go! Don't worry, there won't be a quiz, and the Leaders of your WSG have all this information at their fingertips. But just so you know:

WORSHIP SUPPORT GROUP DUTIES

January 2024

1. Prepare Sanctuary and Narthex for worship each Sunday
 - Before worshipers enter Sanctuary, ensure:
 - Chairs and Zoom Tech table arranged
 - Lectern in place, mic on with fresh batteries (charger on south wall)
 - Flowers obtained and in place
 - Lights on (including St. Francis)
 - Candles lit
 - AV system up and running
 - Powerpoint installed and functioning, clicker functioning

- Bulletins on stand by front door
- Narthex and outside front entrance clean and attractive
- Two offering plates set out, one on each pew just inside sanctuary doors.
- After worship:
 - Extinguish candles, turn out lights, shut down computer/AV system
 - Pick up any debris left in the sanctuary
 - Remove flowers
 - Lock sanctuary when everyone has left

2. Greeter duties

- Welcome and inform worshipers (bathrooms, childcare room, etc) from position near guest book, 6 feet from entrance.
- Request guests to sign the guest book
- Count total attendees, fill out the attendance slip and return to the office
- Be alert for any unexpected events inside and outside the sanctuary

3. Communion assistance on designated Sundays

- Set Communion table before service as directed by pastor, including tablecloth and/or white placemats, presentation loaf covered with napkin on doily-covered ceramic plate, juice in ceramic carafe with chalice beside it. (WSG is responsible for providing bread and checking juice supply.)
- Fill individual communion cups with juice, place gluten-free bread cubes on plate.
- After the service: Wash, dry and put away Communion articles.

4. Coffee hour and First Sunday potluck duties

- Set up 2-3 round tables in lounge with 6 folding chairs around each.
- Before start of service, make coffee and hot water for tea. Place in thermos carafes on long table in lounge, along with coffee condiments, tea bags, cups, napkins, appropriate tableware and plates. (WSG is responsible for providing coffee hour goodies.)
- After service, supervise coffee hour (or potluck, if it is First Sunday)
- When all are finished, clean up, start dishwasher, fold up and put away round tables and folding chairs.

5. Assist in worship service

- Liturgist reads as requested by pastor, receives printed copy of readings before service.
- Pastoral assistant operates clicker for PowerPoint, assists pastor as requested
- Zoom Tech arrives early to set up, live-streams service, manages zoom waiting room, adjusts cameras/sound as needed, records service as directed. After recording has processed (about ten minutes), Zoom Tech sends recording to James Bix South (jamesbix@gmail.com) and Andrew Conley-Holcom (pastorandrew@admiralchurch.org).

6. Leader(s) to remain until all others have gone and ensure that lights are out, doors locked and alarm on.

Thanks in advance for your help! Many hands make light work. And when we all work together, we strengthen the bonds of friendship that make Admiral Church such a special place!

Anita Shaffer, Worship Team



MUSIC ADVISOR COMMITTEE

Join Tobi Stone and her Jazz Quartet for a fun afternoon of jazz music on Fat Sunday, February 8th after a cajun-style jambalaya lunch after church! It's all about Mardi Gras!

INTRODUCING YOUR CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS TEAM!

There's a new "kid" on the Admiral Leadership block: the new Congregational Connections Team! This Team is a "marriage" between the previous Fellowship and Parish Care Teams. I guess you could call it a Marriage of Convenience (ha), because it unites two Teams with overlapping interests, simplifying our Church Leadership structure a bit. And who doesn't like making things more simple and efficient?!

Responsibilities of the Parish Care Team, previously co-led with great dedication by Cliff Harsant and Peggy Rich, included sending birthday cards to members, coordinating transportation needs, and providing meals, home assistance and friendly smiles to those going through some rough patches. Responsibilities of the Fellowship Team, previously deliciously led by Anne Muller with administrative assistance from Gerry Flaten, Peggy Rich, Anita Shaffer and Laura Sutkus, included coordinating and contributing to congregational dinners and potlucks and sponsoring social events, such as Bingo, Games afternoons, book clubs and Pot(luck) Pourri craft evenings. Thanks so much to these strong Admiral Leaders for their great past work!!

You all know that some very unusual days are ahead for our little Admiral Church family. In about July of 2025 we will be moving into a temporary rental space for probably a year and a half, while our old building is removed and our new church space in the Homestead affordable housing development prepared. It's going to feel pretty strange. It will be even more important than ever for all of us to be there for each other, to stay CONNECTED!! That's why these two Teams have been combined with the name Congregational Connections, under Team Leader Anita Shaffer. And we need ALL of your input!! Ways that you can help:

1. Join the Team!
2. Volunteer for specific activities/jobs. Right now we are greatly in need of someone to take over sending birthday cards.
3. Share your ideas for staying connected: Like Bingo? Games? Crafting? Newsletter? Dinners? Creativity? Jam sessions? Reading groups? Movies? TELL US!
4. Willing to sponsor/facilitate one of the above? Better yet!!
5. Aware of someone who might need assistance or just some Admiral Love? Please do let us know!

THANK YOU!! With all of us working together, I know we can stay CONNECTED!

Anita Shaffer, Congregational Connections Team Leader
(206) 300-6974, songinmyheart411@gmail.com.

NEW FEATURE! CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS CORNER

Staying connected involves, among other things, getting to know each other better! This is the first in a series of Tidings articles designed to help us better know our fellow Admiralites. Today:

MEET PEGGY RICH!

1. Roles at Admiral Church: Leadership: Moderator, Financial Secretary, Bylaws Committee Chair, Transition Committee Chair, Co-Leader of Worship Support Group 1, member of multiple Teams and Committees. Member of Admiral Choir.
2. Past: Born in Cedar Rapids Iowa, moved to West Seattle at the age of 2. Attended Roxhill Elementary, David Denny Junior High and Chief Sealth High School. One brother and one sister live in Washington State. Multiple nieces, nephews. One adopted son Robert lives in Spokane. Retired 42-year special ed teacher, autism specialist.
3. Present: Shares a home with Anita Shaffer near Lincoln Park. Two cats, Stanley and Waldo.
4. Nickname: Peg
5. Passions: Admiral Church, music, gardening, road trips, learning cool new stuff.
6. Favorite colors: Teal, peach.
7. Favorite movie: "The Magnificent Obsession".
8. Favorite hymn: "God of our Fathers" with flourishes
9. What brought you to Admiral Church? Family ties (mother Donna Jonas).
10. What do you love best about Admiral? The love and caring that we share with each other.

Very pleased to meet you, Peggy!

Anita Shaffer, Congregational Connections Team Leader



**Worship Service
every Sunday @ 10:30
www.admiralchurch.org**



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United Church of Christ
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