



### Food Bank Needs

- Salad dressings
- Mayonnaise
- Mustard
- Jam

Please place donations in the grocery cart in the foyer. Thank you!

### Help for Homeless

Ladies Fellowship is making plastic mats for the homeless, while the Youth group is putting together Hi! H.O.P.E. bags of grooming supplies and snacks. Please consider donating to these very worthwhile missions. See Carol Moser about the mats and a member of the Youth group about the bags to see how you might help.

## 2016 PNWC Annual Conference

I attended this year's annual conference for the UMC Pacific Northwest Conference. This was my first conference, and I went as the only representative for RUMC. During the conference, I texted Pastor Abby (in Nebraska) and Pastor Andrew (in Kentucky) to tell them what was happening. Being my first annual conference, I wanted to have a full experience, so I planned to attend as many events as possible.

On Thursday evening, I went to the lay leader reception and met a lot of lay leaders. To get to know others, we played an informative "About You" Bingo.

The Conference theme was Keeping Sabbath: Resting, Rejoicing, Returning. All events reflected this theme, and the symbol was a Tree of Life. (*See image next page.*) I had been told that the individual districts sit together, but this year it was decided to let people sit where they wanted. I sat in the same place and had different people sit with me each day. I also sat with different people in small groups and meals and in that way met many different laypeople and pastors.

On Friday, we elected a new conference lay leader, Nancy Tam Davis. She has an extensive background in Human Resources and teaching group skills for working together, building teams and starting programs. She also has used these skills as a layperson and leader in her church. She will be a valuable resource and asset for the PNW Conference.

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## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**9:15 a.m.**  
Teen Class

**9:30 a.m.**  
Adult Class

**10:30 a.m.**  
Fellowship Time

**11 a.m.**  
Worship Service



### Keys Needed for the Bazaar

Do you have any old keys laying around the house that you don't use anymore? If so, Carol Moser has a good use for them! Carol is creating a necklace from old keys, in a project for the RUMC Bazaar. Please give your keys to Carol. (And also, please consider a craft that you might create for the Bazaar.) Thank you!

Note: No Prime Timers Luncheon in August!

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The Imagine No Malaria Campaign reported that U.S. UMC has raised \$68.8 million, trained 11,000 workers in Africa and given out 2.3 million nets. The conferences in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska raised \$1.1 million. The next campaign is Imagine Health for Children. The PNW Conference so far has donated \$1.7 million to the Jamaa Letu Orphanages.



The project/mission of the PNW Conference laity is Project Rebuild to rebuild homes lost in the 2014 and 2015 massive fires in Okanogan County. These are homes that were uninsured or underinsured. There was no help from FEMA, since the density of population did not meet the regulations to qualify. Rebuilds are being done by UMC volunteers. The first two phases have been funded (each home costs \$90,000); phase II needs \$1.5 million in donations, grants, etc.

There were five focus sessions that met to discuss the report from the previous year, elect officers and act on legislation, petitions and issues. I was involved with Congregational Development. This group helps support new faith communities and revitalize others. It supported programs in 15 new churches and discontinued them in three faith communities in 2015, with a focus on Spanish-speaking communities. The PNW Conference started 10 new churches and closed three in the same time period.

On Saturday, there were reports from General Conference and from each focus group. Issues chosen were voted on by the general body. There were two major issues that caused much debate and discussion and had multiple motions and amendments. Those were: 1) Action of Non-Conformity with General Conference of the UMC concerning discrimination off the LGBTQ community and punishment of pastors who support and marry people from the community. The PNW Conference will not discriminate and will support and not participate in any proceedings against pastors involved with the LGBTQ community. This was done since the General Conference "shelved" this issue by referring it to a committee of bishops.

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## Hello Church Family!

I'm writing to ask a favor. Many of you have known me for years and knew my service dog, Buddy. We have been working to replace him since before his death. We are simply not able to do the work anymore. So we're looking to a local service dog provider for a service dog for me. They ask that I have at least two letters of recommendation from friends. I know everyone is so unbelievably busy, but it would mean the world to me if those who know me could write just a short recommendation. The name of the service dog organization is Summit Assistance Dogs based in Anacortes, Wash. If you can send your e-mails to me, I can forward them on. Thank you so much in advance. These dogs really make a world of difference.

*Mary@theQueensCo.com;*  
(360) 620-6559

■ Mary Heacock

## Coffee Donations

We've received barely any coffee money and by Sept. 1 will not have any coffee left to brew on Sundays. Donations of coffee and creamer would be much appreciated!

■ Fran Larrabee

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2) The second issue was over the General Conference not addressing the issue of the divesting of investments in the fossil fuel industry. It did not get out of committee. The PNW Conference will send a letter to the General Conference with a Statement of Lament for tabling this issue and a resolution to have the PNW work on removing investments in this industry.

We had several special events: Laity Session, memorial services, Retiree Celebration, Awards Banquet, district gatherings, Commissioning and Ordination Service and announcement of appointments of pastors and lay clergy. There also was discussion of revitalization and discipleship-making.

This was a long conference, and it was tiring, inspiring, boring and interesting, but mostly a big learning experience and a boost to my faith. Thank you for trusting me to represent RUMC.

■ Roberta Hanson

## Ad Council Notes

During the July 17<sup>th</sup> Administrative Council meeting, the council continued to prepare for our new pastor. At Pastor Andrew's request, we picked three times for the small group introduction meetings: 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. We will be asking folks to pick a preferred time. Once we have an idea of who can meet when, we will schedule some dates and arrange the meetings.

The council also reviewed ideas for grounds maintenance. (*Look for Joe Sanford's article on this topic.*) Please thank Steve Bella and the trustees who have completed a number of projects and made progress on many more. The cross replacement project hit a snag when the preferred type of cedar could not be obtained. An alternative has been identified, and the cross should be back up soon.

Now that our new pastor has arrived, we will be dusting off some projects that have been on hold, the most immediate being planning for our fall stewardship campaign.

■ Susan Hougham, Ad Council Chair



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***Sharing  
God's Love  
And Forgiveness  
With North Kitsap***

## About Our Gardens



We have beautiful gardens! Friends and neighbors compliment us on them. But the last few years, our gardens have felt neglected, due to lack of water, pruning and weeding.

I pulled out seven mature birds nest spruce last week that had died, due to lack of water and care. I will take out another rhododendron, also dead, in an area that was not adequately watered, near the entrance driveway. This is

mostly because adoptive caregivers have moved away or are having health issues.

Congregation members in the past have adopted sections of the garden to care for—a practice that worked well and maybe could be tried again. We could map the garden, and those who wish to keep their section could put their names on it. The sections that have no caregivers would be up for adoption. There could be more than one family adopting a section.

Already, the gardens are looking much better. (Ladies were seen working in the gardens last week in the hot sun.) With just a little help, 30 minutes here and there, we could have the gardens perfect again.

Last year, the water faucet near the rear of the church was accidentally left on, causing a large water bill. That has been corrected; however, we have some very expensive plants throughout the church gardens that could still use some water. Many of them were more than \$100 in value when purchased and are now mature. Please consider how you might be able to help.

■ Joe and Faye Sanford