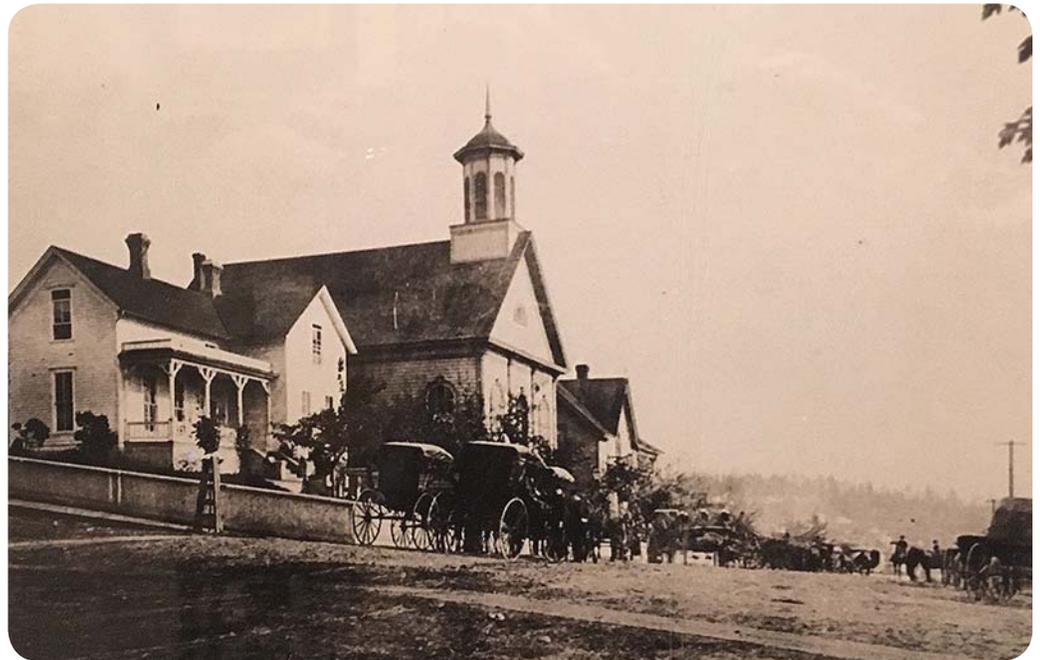


the spire

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January 2019

Exploring what it means to follow the way of Jesus Christ



This photograph shows the first Seattle First Baptist Church structure which was dedicated in 1872.

The building beyond the church building was the Hanford home in which the eleven founding members met to establish our congregation in 1869.

Celebrating 150 Years of Ministry in Seattle

During 2019 we will celebrate our 150th Anniversary. Seattle First Baptist Church was founded in 1869 in the Hanford home. Planning is in progress for our anniversary celebration. A commemorative book is also being created by several members of our community. We will have more details about anniversary celebrations later in the year.

Celebrating Tim and Patrick

By Dick Miller

Join us in showing how much Pastor Tim and Patrick Green mean to our life together! – Let's celebrate Pastor Tim's tenth anniversary as our lead pastor and Patrick's ongoing, invaluable contribution to our youth and our Godly Play program. Plans are underway for a celebration on Sunday, February 10. If you would like to help underwrite this celebration, please place a check, made out to SFBC with "Tim and Patrick's celebration" on the memo line, in the collection plate or send to the church office. Thanks.

Choir Resumes and You're Invited!

By Ben Luedcke



Thank you to everyone who supported our ministry in our December concert: we hope the music was spiritually enriching and that the message resonated with you personally. As the choir starts rehearsal Wednesday, January 9, now is an excellent time to join as we prepare music for Lent, Easter, and our upcoming May concert, which will focus on unity and our relationship with both the world around us and our community.

Under new leadership, it is important that any new member understands that choir is a commitment, but it also is not necessarily all or nothing: we want to include and empower as many people as possible in our ministry. If you are interested, please find Ben after service or email him at [Ben@Seattlefirstbaptist.org].

Adult Learning Offerings in January

By Lynn Gaertner-Johnston

Rebecca Alder on Her Journey of Healing: January 6 Adult Education Program

A large percentage of the population has experienced abuse in one form or another: emotional, sexual, deprivation, beating. According to Rebecca Alder, who will discuss her journey of healing at 9:30 a.m. on January 6, healing from abuse is more than survival. Survival means that whatever you came to believe about yourself and about the world still affects your life. Healing means the pain and skewed beliefs of the past have been released from your heart. Please join Rebecca Alder and the Education Commission on January 6 in the Parlor. Learn about Rebecca's healing journey and her book *Finding Myself*.

Bring Your Bible to Sunday Morning Bible Study

Beginning in January, the Adult Education Commission will offer Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. on the second through fifth Sundays of the month. Bring your Bible to be part of the lively discussions.

- January 13: Pastor Anita explores the connection between the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, likely written by the same author. She will discuss politics, faith, and the early church.
- January 20: Pastor Tim leads a discussion of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s sermon on Luke 10 and the parable of the Good Samaritan.
- January 27: Pastor Patricia leads us through Luke 4:1-21, looking at Jesus' temptation in the wilderness and the beginning of his Galilean ministry.

In February, Adult Education will add a weekly Sunday morning contemplative program. Watch for details. If you have questions about Adult Education, please contact commission co-leaders Joanne Wright and Lynn Gaertner-Johnston.

Join Us at the Annual Meeting

Seattle First Baptist Church's Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 20 right after worship. We will receive the annual report and vote on church lay leaders and a budget for 2019. It is also a tradition to honor outstanding volunteers during the meeting.

The next weekend, January 25 and 26, our newly elected leadership and staff will meet in a retreat at Camp Burton on Vashon Island. Information about the retreat is available from Congregational President Harriet Platts.

Our Church Nurse Invites You to Lunch

Sue Ross, our "church nurse," is sponsoring a lunch on Sunday, January 13 at 12:30 p.m. The program is about Severe Memory Loss, and features Kathy Stewart RN, who has developed a practical guide and a wealth of useful information which is accessible to all who have a friend or love one who suffers from progressive Memory loss. All are welcome.

Spreading Cheer with CFYA



Some of our children, youth, young adults and families had fun caroling and handing out homemade decorated cookies to seniors at Hilltop House on December 9. Aaron Burkhalter and Brooke Rolston provided music and our "Christmas" elves Norah and Alex made sure everyone had some goodies. Many thanks to Karen Carlos and the Hilltop House folks for having us.

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Members of the SFBC Sanctuary Choir and others who love to sing gospel music once again are planning to participate in a mass choir for the Evergreen Association MLK service at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship on Monday, Jan. 21. Joint rehearsals are planned for Saturdays, Jan. 5, 12 and 19 at New Beginnings. Please contact Nancy Roberts-Brown if you would like to participate. Her contact information is available from the church office.

The service is at 6 p.m. on Monday, January 21. Rev. Dr. Marvin McMickle, president of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, will be the preacher. He is an author o church and society, black preaching, black church life, and pastoral care.

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship is located at 19300 108th Ave. SE, Kent, WA.

Are You Interested in the Baptist Peace Fellowship Conference?

Pastor Anita will hold an interest meeting and information gathering session for anyone who may want to attend the Global Baptist Peace Conference in Cali, Colombia July 15-20, 2019. The theme will be "Peace in our land: Toward a world without violence."

The Global Baptist Peace Conference this year is being sponsored by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America~Bautistas por la Paz, American Baptist Churches USA, the Alliance of Baptists, and Unibautista and will draw participants from all over the globe.

You can find out more about this conference at globalbaptistpeace2019.org. Lunch will be provided. Gather in the Peacemakers Room on Sunday, January 13 after worship (about 12:30). For more information, please contact Pastor Anita.

Restroom Renovations Begin

By Darren Hochstedler

Beginning early January the main women's restroom off Fellowship Hall will be closed for renovations. Renovations will include demolition of walls and furnishings and a redesign of the space to include a family/gender neutral restroom, new lighting, ceiling and flooring, new fixtures, window restorations and ventilation.

Attention is being paid to insure the new renovations restore the restroom to match the historic nature of the building while adding modern conveniences. The work is expected to last several months, reopening in time for Easter. During this time the restroom will be completely closed and the Seneca entrance to Fellowship Hall will be unavailable from time to time.

If you have any questions please see administrator, Darren Hochstedler or project manager, Bob Sittig. Thank you in advance for your patience during construction.

Please Note: This will also impact use of the Fellowship Hall during weekdays. Construction will only be halted for very important events in Fellowship Hall. During other times you can expect noise in the area. The kitchen will (hopefully) only be impacted in a minor way.

Feed Your Heart, Heal the World

By Keith Ervin

In Jewish tradition, Tu BiShvat (the fifteenth day of the lunar month of Shevat) is the New Year of the Trees. That's the day the sap begins to flow in the fruit trees of Israel and Palestine.

For the past two years, members of Seattle First Baptist Church have joined our friends from Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue and Congregation Beth Shalom in a special event that recognizes Tu BiShvat and honors our Earth. We invite you to plant trees with us on Sunday, January 27, from 2 to 4 p.m. on the edge of Magnuson Park's Kite Hill.

It's a fun, family-friendly event that combines a good time with a serious purpose. Last year, a couple members of Plant for the Planet explained to us that their worldwide children's movement is working to plant one *trillion* trees in order to absorb more of the carbon dioxide that humans are releasing by burning gas, coal, and oil, and clearing forests for animal agriculture.

We're privileged to be able to join this global tree-planting effort. What could be more in the spirit of another Jewish concept, that of *tikkun olam*, or repairing our broken world?

An all-ages Tu BiShvat ritual will follow the tree planting; details are pending. Learn more about the tree planting and sign up (this is required) at [<http://bit.ly/TuBShevat2019>].

A Call For Ushers

By Darren Hochstedler

Seattle First Baptist has a long tradition of a robust usher ministry. Throughout the years ushers have greeted regular attenders and newcomers, helped insure the safety of those gathered and tended to the orderly flow of worship, communion and the offering.

Over the recent years, recruiting new ushers has been difficult. Age and health, vacations, busy schedules, etc. have made it difficult to maintain a regular roster. This has resulted in the same people being asked Sunday after Sunday

Tu BiShvat Tree Planting

Sunday, January 27th

2 PM - 4 PM

Kite Hill @ Magnuson Park

Tu BiShvat ritual will follow.

Required sign-up and details at
<http://bit.ly/TuBShevat2019>



**Every tree planted
will remove one ton of
carbon dioxide from
the atmosphere
during its lifetime.**

to provide this important ministry. Now we are asking you to consider stepping up and assisting.

If you are able and willing to usher at least once per quarter, please sign up today. We will contact you to find a schedule that will work. Weekly, monthly and quarterly users are needed. You will be scheduled in advance and only as often as you desire.

The job is easy but important. If you are interested, please send Darren an email at darren@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Walk the Labyrinth One Last Time

Sunday, January 13 will be the final monthly Labyrinth walk at SFBC. If you are interested in attending, please arrive in the Fellowship Hall between 4 and 5:30 p.m. Look for special Labyrinth walks in the future. They are being planned seasonally. If you have an interest to help with the planning, please contact Darren in the church office.

ABWM Happenings

By Shirley Wilkinson

Blanket Sunday is coming in February. Bring new or clean blankets to church on February 10 and they will be taken to shelters in the Seattle area. Twin blankets are the most needed size.

And continuing to think of our homeless, don't forget to put your coins in the Penny Project jars on the tables in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour. They will go to Mary's Place to help with the many expenses at their shelters.

Parking Update

The parking lot task force continues to communicate with the developers of the property adjacent to the west side of the church, Poly Clinic and other interested parties. We expect to continue our current use of the lot for 18-24 months. We are studying several viable options and expect to narrow our focus by March. We feel confident that we will have the parking situation resolved by the time "our" current lot is no longer available to us. Questions can be directed to Mike Zaugg or Bob Sittig.

SFBC Welcomes Irish Tenor Emmet Cahill in Concert February 8

Emmet Cahill, award-winning Irish tenor and principal singer with the popular Irish music show Celtic Thunder, will perform a concert at Seattle First Baptist Church on Friday, February 8 at 7:30 PM. Some of you may recall that Emmet was a guest soloist at our worship service last November 4. His voice and presence were sublime. This rising young star performed to a sold-out audience at Carnegie Hall in March 2018. Emmet has been a guest artist with several symphonies in the US.

Following up on his debut orchestral album "Emmet Cahill's Ireland," which went to number one on several World Music charts, Emmet will perform selections from his brand-new album of traditional Irish songs. He'll also sing beloved church hymns and Broadway favorites, plus there will be a special performance with the Sanctuary Choir. And no Emmet Cahill concert is complete without the ever-popular "request medley" segment which often brings surprises from the audience!

General admission tickets are \$30 and may be purchased online at [<http://www.emmetcahill.com/tour-dates>], or at the door. A limited number of Meet & Greet tickets, which include a pre-concert meeting with Emmet plus the concert, are available for \$45. The new album will be available for purchase at the concert.

It'll be a special night of songs and stories with the Emerald Isle's most exciting young tenor!



Emmet Cahill

Where in Seattle is Pastor Anita?

Find her on Tuesday, January 22 at Green Bean Coffeehouse in Greenwood (8515 Greenwood Ave N) from 4-6 p.m. Come have some informal fellowship time and grab a coffee or a snack, too!

Brent Jensen Quartet, Paul Desmond Tribute

Seattle Jazz Vespers — January 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Paul Desmond (born Paul Emil Breitenfeld, November 25, 1924 – May 30, 1977) was an American jazz alto saxophonist and composer, best known for his work with the Dave Brubeck Quartet and for composing that group's biggest hit, "Take Five". He was one of the most popular musicians to come out of the cool jazz scene.

Brent Jensen - Alto Sax; **Jamie Findlay** - Guitar; **Chris Symer** – Bass; **Stefan Schatz** - Drums



In 1986-87, **Brent Jensen** studied in New York City with jazz legend Lee Konitz on a grant from the Idaho Commission on the Arts. He was a featured winner of the Woodwinds on Fire international talent search conducted by Jazziz magazine (August 1996). Brent has performed with a wide variety of jazz artists including Gene Harris, Bobby Shew, Gary Foster, Dave Peck, Joe LaBarbera, John Clayton, Wycliffe Gordon, Warren Vache, Curtis Stigers, John Stowell, Dianne Schuur and many others.

His recording, *The Sound of a Dry Martini: Remembering Paul Desmond* on Origin Records, charted at the #1 position on jazz radio stations across the country. Dry Martini was also featured

on JazzWeek's Top 100 and NPR's JazzWorks' Top 25 lists for the year 2002. *Stay Cool*, Brent's second release on Origin made Jim Wilke's (host of Jazz After Hours) "Favorite Jazz CDs of 2002" list. His fifth CD for Origin One More Mile with Seattle musicians Bill Anschell (piano), Jeff Johnson (bass) and John Bishop (drums) was one of Jim Wilke's (host of Jazz After Hours) "Favorite Jazz CDs of 2007". Brent's 2009 release on Origin, *We Couldn't Agree More* is a collection of duets with Seattle pianist Bill Anschell. That disc was recently selected as a 2009 "Critic's Choice" by Jazziz magazine. His most recent release is *Humble Origins* (also on Origin) with the jazz quartet "Wellstone Conspiracy". That disc was named a "Best Northwest Jazz CD of 2011" by Jim Wilke.

What Happens When Everyone Gets Into the Act?

This year's rendition of the Do-It-Yourself Christmas Pageant took over the worship service on Sunday, December 23. Pastor Anita Peebles put together a script that told the familiar Christmas story in some new and interesting ways and served as the narrator. Dr. Patricia Hunter preached on the theme of "No Christmas Without Mary." A variety of performers had singing and speaking parts, and the entire congregation participated in one way or another. Thank you to everyone who played along with the pageant and made it a memorable experience for us all.



January Calendar of Events

- Tuesday, Jan. 1 New Years Day
Office Closed
- Wednesday, Jan. 2 Note: No Community Dinner or Choir Rehearsal this week
- Sunday, Jan. 6 Epiphany**
9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Rebecca Alder shares about her journey of healing - Parlor
10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor
11 a.m. Worship and Communion with Pastor Anita Peebles preaching on Matthew 2.1-12
6 p.m. Seattle Jazz Vespers - Brent Jensen Quartet, Paul Desmond Tribute - sanctuary
- Monday, Jan. 7 All Annual Reports must be turned in for publication. Send to editor@seattlefirstbaptist.org
- Wednesday, Jan. 9
6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall
6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge
7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Sunday, Jan. 13**
9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Bible Study with Pastor Anita Peebles - Parlor
10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor
11 a.m. Worship with Pastor Tim Phillips preaching on Luke 3.15-17, 21-22
12:30 p.m. Lunch sponsored by the Church Nurse with speaker Kathy Stewart RN on Severe Memory Loss. Following Worship - Interest Meeting and information gathering session for folks who might want to attend the Global Baptist Peace Conference in Cali, Colombia, July 15-20, 2019. Hosted by Pastor Anita Peebles. Lunch will be provided - Peacemakers Room
4 p.m. Walk the Labyrinth - Fellowship Hall - enter through lower Seneca doors
- Wednesday, Jan. 16
6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall
6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge
7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, Jan. 17
7 p.m. Diaconate - Parlor
- Sunday, Jan. 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Sunday and Annual Meeting**
9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Bible Study with Pastor Tim Phillips - Parlor
10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor
11 a.m. Worship with Theologian in Residence Patricia Hunter preaching on Luke 4.14-21
Following Worship - Annual Congregational Meeting
- Monday, Jan. 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Office closed
6 p.m. Worship with the Evergreen Association at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, 19300 108th Ave SE, Kent, WA 98055. The service will include a mass choir and participants from various Evergreen churches.
- Tuesday, Jan. 22
4 - 6 p.m. Where in Seattle is Pastor Anita? Find her at Green Bean Coffeehouse in Greenwood
- Wednesday, Jan. 23
6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall
6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge
7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Friday, Jan. 25 - Saturday, Jan. 26
Diaconate Retreat - Camp Burton on Vashon Island
- Sunday, Jan. 27**
9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Bible Study with Dr. Patricia L. Hunter, our Theologian in Residence - Parlor
10:15 a.m. Family Fellowship Breakfast in Youth Lounge, 3rd Floor
11 a.m. Worship with Imam Jamal Rahman preaching on "beloved community"
- Wednesday, Jan. 30
6 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall
6:45 p.m. Youth Group Meeting - Youth Lounge
7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

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Christmas Eve Combines Poetry, Carols and Candlelight

This year's Christmas Eve service featured poetry, including several original works written and read by members of our community. The Sanctuary Choir led the congregation in singing many beloved carols, and our pastoral staff spread candlelight throughout the sanctuary.



Online Extras

Did you catch our Christmas Concert and Christmas Eve Service? You can listen to and read highlights on our website:

<http://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/christmas-2018.html>

