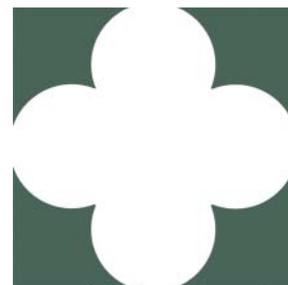


the spire

Volume 81 / Number 7-8

July-August 2017

Exploring what it means to follow the way of Jesus Christ



seattle first baptist

Signs of Our Times



Affirming Our Values

By Jim Segaar

When I reflect on our church's new Affirmation of Values, I think of my parents. Bernice and Raymond weren't rabble rousers or community leaders, but their values were obvious in the way they lived their lives every day.

Mom and Dad both studied their faith, and did justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. They taught us that all people are important and worth paying attention to, not through words but through actions such as feeding strangers and making friends across societal boundaries like race and economic status. They were strong in their faith, and I never heard them criticize anyone else's. They were environmentalists before that word became common. They didn't know they were "composting" when we put everything that would rot into the garden soil. When recycling became available, they avidly complied. I still remember Mom washing out tin cans, removing the labels, and flattening them so they could be recycled. Dad volunteered at a community "paper baler" that consolidated waste cardboard and paper into his 90s.

My parents never marched in a protest (at least not that I know of). They probably voted Republican consistently, and they never told us who to vote for. They never lectured us kids on "family values" or anything like it. They lived every day according to their beliefs, and we learned their values by watching and listening. Values weren't statements they hung on a bulletin board, they were who they were.

I think Seattle First Baptist is a lot like my parents. For decades we've lived our values, even when we didn't bother to write them down. We welcome the stranger, stand with the marginalized, open our doors and hearts to whoever society decides to

shut out. And I hope that we take the values we affirm seriously, into ourselves, so that they shine through our individual and collective lives.

I recently heard an environmental advocate confess that he gave up a specific brand of ice cream to lessen his carbon footprint. Two thoughts came to mind. Wow you're serious about this! But more to the point, living our values and protecting our environment doesn't have to be about ice cream brands and protests. Each one of us can maximize the good we contribute to the world by paying attention to every decision we make, choosing to live like we know we should, even if it's not always convenient. We can put the brakes on our own consumerism, drive less, fly less, heat and cool less, and thoroughly enjoy life in the process.

I'm glad we have an Affirmation of Values. Those statements can help us remember who we have been, and who we are. And now it is time for every one of us to live out those values in our daily lives.

Unforeseen Events

By Bob Sittig

You may recall in my article in last month's Spire that I said the search committee for the Associate Pastor for Ministry with Women and Families anticipated announcing the recommended candidate in this Spire edition and presenting that candidate to the congregation on Sunday, July 9th, barring any unforeseen events. Well, the unforeseen events have occurred. Out of the 22 qualified applications that we received, three were considered finalists. We invited those three to visit our church for a weekend so we could get to know them better and determine their suitability for the position.

One of our three withdrew her name because of an unexpected death in her family. The other two came to visit, but after spending two or three days with each candidate our committee felt that neither was the correct fit for our congregation. These experiences proved that an extended visit and interview is essential in insuring we recommend the best possible candidate for this position.

The committee is committed to continue our search by taking another look at some of the submissions and possibly reposting the job opening. We are also reviewing the job description with the Personnel Commission to ensure our description accurately matches the church's requirements.

We recognize that the departure of Pastor Ned Parker in January of this year has significantly increased the workload for Pastor Tim Phillips. In an effort to alleviate this situation until the appropriate person is found to fill this vacancy, we have recommended to the Personnel Commission that we fill two part-time interim positions. One would address Children and Families and the other would concentrate on Women's Ministries and Pastoral Care. We are very close to finding well qualified local individuals to fill these temporary positions and I hope to be announcing to you very soon that we have been able to put this plan in place to relieve Tim of some of the extra tasks he has been performing.

Once again I wish to express my personal appreciation to the members of this search committee for their contributions and dedication in carrying out this important responsibility for you, the congregation. I will keep you informed as events occur. Thank you for your support and patience in this matter.

Eating Local: A Spiritual Practice

By Kelly Davis (Bet Alef) and Harriet Platts (SFBC), Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill

"Knowing how foods grow is to know how and when to look for them; such expertise is useful for certain kinds of people, namely, the ones who eat, no matter where they live or grocery shop." —Barbara Kingsolver in *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life*

More Affirmation...

Pastor Tim Phillips plans to focus on our Affirmation of Values during worship this fall.

- On Homecoming Sunday, September 10, "We will be present to one another and to our neighbors." John 14.1-3, "I go to prepare a place for you."
- The following Sunday, September 17, our guest preacher will be Allyson Robinson, one of the country's first transgender women ordained as a Baptist minister. "We will actively work to recognize and change our own biases."
- On September 24 worship will focus on "We will protect our environment."
- World Communion Sunday, October 1, provides an opportunity to show that "We will respect all religions." Ephesians 2.14-22, "creating one new humanity."
- On October 8: "We will welcome the stranger, including immigrants and refugees, as our Scriptures instruct." Leviticus 19.33-34, "you shall love the alien as yourself."
- And on Evergreen and Companis Sunday, October 15, "We will go deeper in faith as we do justice, love mercy, work for peace, and walk humbly with God." Micah 6.8, "What does the Lord require of you?"

Be on the lookout for opportunities to affirm your values, in narrative, in writing, and especially in your daily life.



Summer is a fabulous time to practice eating locally grown foods. What with various leafy salad options, root veggies, and fruits like strawberries, blueberries, some meats and eggs, you really can't go wrong. Most of us have access to local farmer's markets where we can access food that has been grown or raised close by and that's reasonably priced. If you're unsure where these markets are, check out this website, "Seattle Neighborhood Farmer's Markets" at seattlefarmersmarkets.org. This website has info about locations, what's "ripe and ready," as well as a calendar of events.

So what's the big deal,...you might ask? What does this have to do with a spiritual practice and caring for creation? Eating "local" means many things. One, we are supporting local farmers and their field hands who are working hard to make a living. Second, it takes less fossil fuel to get the food to you, compared to a lot of the foods we purchase in grocery stores that travel a long way to get to your table. In turn, this reduces your personal carbon footprint,

and that's a good thing for the planet. Lastly, it challenges us to pay closer attention to our desires/wants regarding food, and perhaps to moderate our consumption. This can be an act of devotion. Give it a go!

Upcoming Fall Conference on Climate Change/Climate Justice in Seattle: Dates will be announced soon about this exciting day-long event sponsored by Seattle's Faith Action Climate Team, comprised of members from many local faith communities from both Seattle and the Eastside. Have you been looking for a way to connect with others who are concerned about climate change? Stay tuned!

Please contact Keith Ervin, the Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill, convener, for more info about our next meeting. Consider joining us!

Burritos Keep On Rollin'

Hunger continues - even during the summer. That's why the burrito rolls - a joint effort by SFBC and Bet Alef - continue all summer also. Healthy, vegan burritos are rolled on the 3rd Saturday of every month in the Fridell meeting room and distributed to the homeless throughout the city. Consider helping. Mark your calendars: July 15, August 19, and September 16 at 1:45 p.m.

For more details please contact [BurritoRoll1@gmail.com]. If you want to be notified in advance of the rolls, you can ask to be put on the mailing list.

Welcome Our New Organist, April Kuhr

By Pastor Tim Phillips

The Organist Search Committee is pleased to announce that it has unanimously appointed April Kuhr as our new organist. April has served Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and United Methodist congregations and was the Director of Music of the Catholic Chapel at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point. She brings a wealth of musical experience from playing for worship, leading children's music, serving as English and Spanish cantor, to co-founding Sacred SoundsMusic Camp for the Episcopal Church in New Jersey. She has two Bachelor degrees in Music (piano performance and accompanying) from Pacific Lutheran University and has a Masters in Music from the Eastman School. Adept at piano and organ, April will continue our ongoing commitment to musical diversity as well as offering a depth of experience that will enrich our worship. By the way, she plays a mean Widor "Toccata" from *Symphony No. 5*. [<http://soundcloud.com/april-j-kuhr>].



April writes: "I am honored to be a part of an amazing music program, and working at a church so dedicated to its rich and varied musical traditions. Our faith and mutual love of music will inspire and elevate us through this period of discernment. I look forward to taking this transformational journey with you."

April begins her music ministry with us on Sunday, July 16.

As previously announced, Youngjin Joo is leaving the position of organist at Seattle First Baptist for personal family reasons that may involve her moving out of the area. Her last day with us will be Sunday, July 9. We thank Youngjin for sharing her creativity and musical expertise both during worship and as accompanist for the choir.

A New Adventure in Faith Community Nursing

By Sue Ross

Editor's Note: Sue wrote this article about becoming our Faith Community Nurse. We will commission her in that role during worship on Sunday, July 16.

You never know where life will take you.

Four years ago I was asked if I would be willing to serve as our church's vice president and then as its president. I had never imagined serving in such a role. Even though this role was well outside of my comfort zone I found it to be very rewarding and my relationship with our church grew stronger than it had ever been. This past spring Tim and I met and talked about reestablishing our Parish Nurse program. After talking with Tim I started to feel called to explore the option of serving in this role. I have always loved being a nurse and my position is slowing down after over 30 years as a clinic/research nurse at the UWMC. However I kept thinking what do I know about being a Parish Nurse and how could I ever fill the shoes of Myrna Eaton and Ann Keppler?

The first thing I did was to visit with a Parish Nurse at the University Presbyterian Church. She was wonderful and she told me about a group of Parish Nurses in the area that meet once a month for fellowship and professional enrichment. She also provided me with information about a course on Parish Nursing that I should attend.

I met with the group of Parish Nurses last month and felt right at home. I also looked into the course about Parish Nursing that was recommended and I am signed up to attend next month in Oregon. The course is called "Foundations of Faith Community Nursing: Whole Person Health Care" and it is provided by Health Ministries NW. It is recognized by the American Nurses Association. The term Parish Nurse has been changed to Faith Community Nursing so that it is more inclusive of all faith groups.

A Faith Community Nurse does not provide hands on care and you might ask "What does a Faith Community Nurse do exactly?"; something I have been asking myself.

From my research I have learned that a faith community nurse is a registered nurse who serves a variety of roles in a local faith community (church, synagogue, mosque etc.) and neighborhood. Her or his specific assignments are decided in consultation with the church leadership team.

These roles may include the following as defined by "Health Ministries NW":

- Integrator of Faith and Health - Assists parishioners to achieve higher levels of wellness by improving both spiritual and physical health.
- Health Educator - Provides opportunities for the congregation to learn about health issues, individually and in groups.
- Health Advisor - Discusses health concerns, emphasizing early response to small problems and encouraging healthy lifestyle changes.
- Referral Agent - Provides referral to healthcare and social services within the community.
- Health Advocate - Speaks out to help members of the congregation or community obtain needed health-related services.
- Developer of Support Groups - Facilitates the development of support groups for the faith community and others served.
- Volunteer Coordinator - Recruits, prepares and oversees congregational volunteers who help those in need.

This will be a journey and learning experience for both of us. I see myself starting out as being a resource for our church community and then allowing my role to grow from there.

On a practical note, there is a small room in the church office that has been made available to me where I will have a blood pressure cuff and nursing resources. Starting in the fall I will be available Wednesdays before our community dinner. I will have a church email address that you can use to contact me. Feel free to stop me in church if you like to set up a time to meet.

Don't hesitate to give me a call or email if you think I can be of any help to you.



Sue Ross listens to a question during an Adult Learning session in 2016.

Graduations 2017

By Pastor Tim Phillips

We are celebrating several graduations in our life together this spring. Please join in congratulating:

Nola Zaugg-James is completing 5th grade at Thurgood Marshall Elementary and will be entering Washington Middle School.

Ella Zaugg-James is completing Washington Middle School and will enter Garfield High School.

Conrad Smith is graduating from Garfield High School and going on to the music program at Oberlin College.

Spencer Van Koevering is graduating from Ingraham High School and will attend Whitman College in the fall.

Christopher Ross is graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Washington in Informatics and will be working at Starbuck's headquarters as a systems analyst with international procurement.

Peter Scott graduated from Brown University and will be taking a computer software position in New York City. The family celebrated by doing a white-water rafting trip.

Gina Rohrbach is graduating from the University of Washington's Masters in Teaching program. She is completing her internship at Wing Luke Elementary School in South Seattle teaching kindergarten. She has accepted a position with the Shoreline School District! She will be teaching First Grade at Parkwood Elementary starting in September.

Elle de la Cruz completed her Masters in Social Work (MSW) from Berkeley's School of Social Welfare. She received the academic Dean's award for Social Justice. She will be staying in the Bay Area after graduation and will be working at the USF Oakland Benioff Children's Hospital working with children and families as a clinical social worker.

David Whitlock has successfully defended his master's thesis (ten points out of ten!) and will graduate with a Masters in Humanities in Baltic Sea Regional Studies from the University of Latvia on June 29. His parents Janet and Kellie, and sister Alyse will attend his graduation. David will return home in early July for a few months.

Meri Wimberly has successfully defended her dissertation and has graduated with a Ph.D. in English from the University of Washington.

Welcome New Members

By Pastor Tim Phillips

During Pentecost worship on June 4, we welcomed two new members to our life together:

Carroll Boone joins us by letter from the Washington Cathedral in Redmond. Carroll was born in Raleigh, N.C. and has been a financial advisor. He had spent some time with us several years ago but decided now is the time to join. He will be working with Membership & Engagement on publicity and outreach.

Laura Van Tosh joins us after already spending time with us in the choir. She was born in Miami, Florida and has lived in several other places including Houston, Philadelphia, and Silver Spring, Maryland. Laura has worked in health care policy and advocacy for over 30 years and is now a Companis worker placed as Special Projects Coordinator at Seattle Area Support Group. She loves comedy and politics – which comes in handy right about now.

On July 9, **Stephen Gilbert** will also join our expanding Seattle First Baptist family. Welcome all!



Liz Caldwell introduced Carroll Boone to us in June.



Laura Van Tosh was introduced by Gary Davis in June.



Stephen Gilbert helped out during the All Church Work Party last summer.

Join Us on Sunday, July 2



Be sure to be at Seattle First Baptist for worship on Sunday, July 2, when Mikah Meyer will sing and speak. A professional countertenor singer, and self-described "pastor's kid," Mikah will sing and share his story during the service.

Meyer recently left a position at the Washington National Cathedral to embark on a road trip to visit every U.S. National Park - all 417 of them - and become the youngest person to do so. The trip is his way of honoring his father, a Lutheran minister, who died of cancer before taking his own "trip of a lifetime."

In addition to being a professional singer and an adventurer, Meyer is the founder of "Queer For Christ" - the world's largest Young Adult LGBT Christian organization. He has spoken and sung for LGBT-affirming Lutheran, Episcopal, Presbyterian, UCC, Methodist, and Catholic churches, and is thrilled to visit our Baptist church.

More about Mikah and his adventure is available on his website: <http://www.tbcmikah.com>

Exciting Guest Preachers Coming in July and August

Along with the remarkable preachers on our pastoral staff, we have the opportunity to hear several remarkable guest preachers in the coming months. Please join us to welcome:

Rev. Holly Bean, July 9

Following our Biennial American Baptist Mission Summit in Portland, the Rev. Holly Vincent Bean will be preaching. Rev. Bean served on the staff of The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) in a variety of roles from 1986 until her retirement in 2010. Since retirement, Holly has continued her American Baptist involvement in a number of ways, including service on the boards of American Baptist Women in Ministry (ABWIM) and the Ministers Council. She is a longtime active member of Judson Memorial Church in New York City. In 1989, Holly completed her Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary and was ordained by Judson Memorial Church. She lives in Montclair, New Jersey with her husband, Reathel Bean; among other retirement activities, they enjoy visiting their adult children and new grandchild.



Romney Student Preaching Award Winner, Karyn Frazier, August 13

From Karyn:

"Although I raised four remarkable children in UW Husky territory, I graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in secondary education and completed graduate work at UCLA to learn better strategies to support English Language

Learners. After many years of teaching and providing literacy support for parents and teachers in area school districts, I was also invited to pour my passion into creating children's sermons, faith education programs, and intergenerational worship services. I've been privileged to serve in lay ministry in education, leading retreats and service projects, and to spend time as Moderator of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ. What a holy winding journey this has been with my Still Speaking God—a journey that eventually brought me to Fauntleroy Church, United Church of Christ, to serve in its dynamic, life-long learning ministry for all ages. When I'm not at church, I enjoy time with my two grandchildren, Henry and Eleanor, and have been known to go on an occasional grand adventure just to keep leaning on my faith boundaries—like a bit skydiving, climbing Mt. Rainer, and my current closer-to-the-ground challenge: pursuing an M.Div. at Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry."



Please Join Us for Fun on July 4

By Sami Hoag and Paul Roby, Outreach Commission co-chairs

Our congregation and Companis are hosts for the 7th annual July 4 Picnic in the parking lot from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. We hope to serve between 200-400 meals to our neighbors experiencing homelessness and to our volunteers. This is a special opportunity to do something good and fun and to interact socially with people who have very different lives from ours. Everyone can help no matter your physical ability. We need volunteers to:

- Help set up tables and chairs starting at 9 a.m.
- Wrap up napkins and forks starting at 10 a.m.
- Bring salads, fruit slices and desserts to the church kitchen before 10:30 a.m.
- Serve food and beverages starting at 11:00 a.m.
- Eat and speak with our guests starting at 11:00 a.m.
- Count guests and other tasks at the last minute
- Help take down tables and chairs starting around 1:30 p.m.



Please leave your name with Judie Scott frontoffice@seattlefirstbaptist.org if you are able to volunteer or bring food. Thank you.

Join Us for the Church Picnic

Our annual church picnic will take place after worship at noon on Sunday, August 20. SFBC and Bright Horizons Early Learning Center are co-sponsoring the event again this year, on Harvard Street next to the church.

Food and drinks will be provided, along with a Bouncy House, Face Painting, Crafts, a Caricature Artist, and Music. The event is a great place to chat, eat, and play, regardless of age.

Marsha Ulmer is coordinating volunteers for the event. Please contact her if you would like to help out with the festivities. Help is needed setting up, cooking, serving, cleaning up and tearing down.



Food and fun were in plentiful supply at last year's Church Picnic



Moving Toward the Light

SFBC Senior Retreat – at Rainbow Lodge

July 11-13, 2017

There is still time to register for the Senior Adult Retreat: Moving Toward the Light, at Rainbow Lodge on July 11-13, 2017.

Just as our bodies need regular exercise and our cells need nutritious food, a spiritual practice can nourish our inner lives. This year's retreat will present a variety of spiritual practices within the Christian tradition for you to experience.

Presenters will include Cherry Johnson, Bill Malcolmson, Harriet Platts, Steve Smith, and Mariah Kay who will do a "Sweet Suite of Chi-Based Meditation Practices."

Cost is \$175 per person - shared or private room. Your check reserves your space. Scholarships available. Contact the church office to register - 206-325-6051. Please note that the retreat is Tuesday - Thursday this year, rather than Wednesday - Friday as in past years.

Faith Journeys Continue in July

One of our most popular series in Adult Learning is Faith Journeys. During the summer, members of our community share their personal stories each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. This year sessions continue through July 30. Speakers during July will be Larry Green, Darren Hochstedler, Abid Bhatti, Don Phillips and Diane Rohrbach. See our Calendar of Events for specific dates.

Adult Learning takes a break during the month of August. Look for exciting offerings beginning again on Homecoming Sunday, September 10.

Bandage Blitz!

By Imogene Williams

Friendship Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 14 to tear sheets and roll bandages! We will eat lots and talk lots too.

Martha Hopley presented at our May meeting, on places and ways to see God. Wendy Winston spoke about the ABW meeting in Richland. Her presentation was so spirited that we all wished we were at the meeting with her!

Remember to put your coins in the Penny Project jars; Mary's Place puts them to good use!

End of Life Planning

A four-week workshop on End of Life Planning will be presented at Seattle First Baptist in September. Jennifer Kropack, the facilitator, works with Trudy James, who has long been associated with SFBC.

During the workshop, participants create their own resource binder with weekly handouts. The sessions are a practice for contemplating our own mortality, reflecting on our values, speaking more comfortably about death, and creating a meaningful legacy. The workshop is also useful for people who want to help their parents plan. The facilitator has a passion to help lessen fears and break the taboo of not talking about death and dying, and will share what she learned during her father's terminal illness and end of life experience.

The workshop will meet on Saturdays, September 16, 23 and 30 and October 7, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Cost is \$125, and a sliding scale is available. Contact Jennifer for more information: 206-713-8973; jwakropack@comcast.net; www.speakingofdying.com

July/August Calendar of Events

Please check the calendar on our website for changes throughout the summer.

Friday, June 30 - Sunday, July 2

ABC-USA 2017 Biennial Mission Summit at Portland, OR. Visit their website for more information: <http://americanbaptists2017.weebly.com>. Our Sanctuary Choir is singing in a mass Gospel Choir on Saturday, July 1. Pastors and delegates from our church will attend.

Sunday, July 2

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Faith Journeys with Larry Green - Parlor
- 10 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal - all are invited to rehearse and sing with the choir today
- 11 a.m. Worship and Communion - special guest will be Mikah Meyer, a renowned professional countertenor with a special outreach to the LGBTQ community. www.mikahmeyer.com/. See the June Spire for more information.

Monday, July 3 Office Closed

Tuesday, July 4

Independence Day

Office Closed

Our annual "Feed the Neighborhood" picnic in the parking lot. Contact the church office to volunteer. Sponsored by SFBC and Companis.

Sunday, July 9

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Faith Journeys with Darren Hochstedler - Parlor
- 10 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal - all are invited to rehearse and sing with the choir today
- 11 a.m. Worship with Rev. Holly Bean, a past vice president of ABCUSA, preaching.

Tuesday, July 11 - Thursday, July 13

Senior Adult Retreat - Moving Toward the Light - Rainbow Lodge

Sunday, July 16

NOTE: *The annual Swedish Summer Run and Walk for Ovarian Cancer begins at 8 a.m., and streets near the church will be closed from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. To get to the church approach from the Madison Street side Boylston or Broadway/Harvard.*

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Faith Journeys with Abid Bhatti - Parlor
- 10 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal - all are invited to rehearse and sing with the choir today
- 11 a.m. Worship with Pastor Tim Phillips preaching on Matthew 13.1-9 - "A sower went out to sow..."

Thursday, July 20

- 7 p.m. Diaconate meets in the Parlor

Sunday, July 23

Vicky Thomas' last Sunday as our director of choral music.

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Faith Journeys with Don Phillips - Parlor
- 10 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal - all are invited to rehearse and sing with the choir today. Last of the Summer - the choir will return to worship on Homecoming Sunday.
- 11 a.m. Worship with Pastor Harriet Platts preaching on Matthew 13.24-30 "wheat and tares ..."

Sunday, July 30

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Learning - Faith Journeys with Diane Rohrbach - Parlor
- 11 a.m. Worship with Theologian in Residence Patricia Hunter preaching on Romans 8.26-39

Sunday, Aug. 6

- 11 a.m. Worship Hour and Communion with Pastor Tim Phillips preaching on Matthew 14.13-21 - "not counting women and children"

Sunday, Aug. 13

- 11 a.m. Worship with Karyn Frazier, Romney Student Preaching Award Winner, preaching on Matthew 14.22-33 - Jesus walking on the water

Sunday, Aug. 20 Church Picnic

- 11 a.m. Worship with Pastor Tim Phillips preaching on Matthew 15.21-28.

Following Worship - Church Picnic on Harvard Ave. All are invited. Special activities for children and families.

Sunday, Aug. 27

- 11 a.m. Worship with Theologian in Residence Patricia Hunter preaching.

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Saying Goodbye to Vicky

Vicky Thomas announced her retirement as Director of Choral Music earlier this year, and we celebrated her time with us in May.

Vicky's last Sunday with us will be July 23. She will lead the Summer Choir one last time that day. All singers are encouraged to participate in choir that Sunday to give Vicky a sendoff in grand style.

Thank you, Vicky for sharing your heart and soul with us for 11 years.

A search committee for a Director of Choral Music has been named, and is beginning its work.

Online Extras

Our blog has welcomed several new authors recently, including Lupe Carlos III, who produced a visual blog post for us, and Nancy Roberts-Brown, who wrote about learning some unpleasant history about the city where she went to college. Take a look:

<http://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/our-blog>

