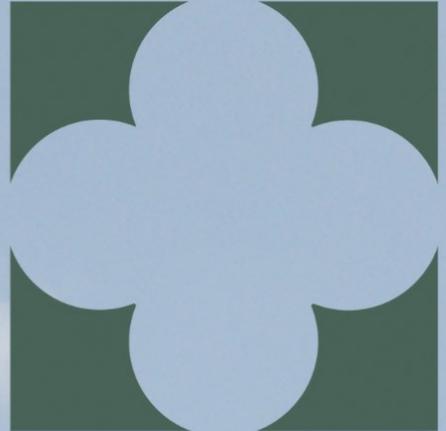




the Spire
July 2021



seattle first baptist

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Submissions for the Spire are due
by the 20th of the month prior.
All submissions should be sent to
editor@seattlefirstbaptist.org

2021 Officers and Church Leaders

For more information please contact the church at
contact@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Executive Committee	President: Jim Ginn VPr: Megan Walker Treasurer: Bob Sittig Secretary: Dick Miller
Church Home Operations	Rodhney Tull
Members at Large	Mike Zaugg, Metta Williams
Membership Engagement	Brent Marble
Adult Education	Martha Hopler
Worship	Sterling Morris
Personnel	Theresa Pruett (Chair) Sara Tollefson, Peter Shafer Marsha Ullmer, Joyce Phillips
CFYA	Mary Jeffers
Stewardship	John Benner (Chair) Pat Kile, Rebecca Morris, Erik Zaugg
Music	Darla O'Brian
Outreach	Beth Reis

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What is the Progress Pride Flag?

Last month, SFBC celebrated PRIDE, re-affirming our support, love, and welcome for all those in the LGBTQIA+ community. This coincided with a remembrance of last year's Black Lives Matter movement, as we witnessed the sentencing of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd. There is much still to be done, and the work of our anti-racist task force continues to look into SFBC's best paths forward.

As we move into the quieter summer months, it is an excellent time to reflect on the ways in which the Progress Pride Flag reflects our values as a community. The Progress Pride Flag was developed by digital designer Daniel Quasar in 2018 as a way to display the intersectionality of justice. As you'll notice, this iteration of the Pride Flag not only includes other colors, but also new shapes. Those meanings are shared below:

Red: This symbolizes life, often connected to blood as a life force in the body and also the passion that flows through us.

Orange: This color represents healing, as a color of joy and celebration - which have been powerful sources of healing for the LGBTQIA+ community.

Yellow: Representing sunlight, this color is also a symbol for creativity and the radiance and brightness at the center of intersectionality. It also represents new ideas and the willingness to step into the light as it brings us out of the shadows.

Green: This color represents prosperity and growth and the hope that justice will bring an end to discriminatory practices that prevent the prosperity of marginalized voices.

Blue: Standing for serenity, this color encourages us to find peace in the midst of challenges.

Purple: As a representation of Spirit, we affirm and celebrate the spiritual lives and practice of our LGBTQIA+ family in our faith community.

The triangle shape in black, brown, pink, baby blue, and white represents the progress still needed in protecting those marginalized communities suffering under the weight of white supremacy and cis-hetero patriarchy.

Black/Brown: These colors represent black, brown, indigenous, and other people of color in our midst. It re-affirms our commitment to anti-racism and to stand up for justice for those marginalized because of the color of their skin.

Pink/Baby-Blue/White: As the symbol of our trans friends and family, this represents the flag that supports their identity, their rights, and their safety.



Growing Together

Children, Family, Youth, & Young Adults Picnic

Sunday, July 18, 2-5 p.m. at Lincoln Park Shelter #5 in West Seattle
All are welcome to join us for this fun time with community and family.

Bring your own food, snacks, drinks, sunscreen and swimsuit.
With trails, playfields, a swimming pool, and an extensive Shoreline, make a day of it with friends and family!



Youth Group Movie Night

Friday, July 16, 7-9:30 p.m.

SFBC Parlor

Bring your own pillow and sleeping bag and snacks for a movie night! Youth going into 6th grade-12th grade are welcome! Please RSVP to Pastor Anita by July 7 at anita@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Godly Play

Godly Play for Kids on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. will be on recess during the summer. We will begin again in the fall.

Young Adults Hike

Saturday, July 24, 9-11 a.m.

Discovery Park

Gather at the Discovery Park Visitors Center (reached via Government Way). We will hike the 2.8-mile roundtrip Discovery Park Loop Trail then gather for lunch. If you'd like to join for just one part, that's ok, too! RSVP to Pastor Anita by July 23 at anita@seattlefirstbaptist.org so we know to expect you.

Pastors in the Park

Wednesday, July 7, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Green Lake Park (Meet at the Basketball Courts)

Join the Pastors at Green Lake Park to walk around the lake and enjoy the summer weather. Feel free to bring your own snacks & drinks, and make sure to apply sunscreen for this gorgeous sunshine we've been experiencing!

Please provide time for parking, as Green Lake has been quite busy!



2021 Graduates in SFBC Community

Sam Zaugg Black (he/him) is graduating from Stevens Elementary School and will attend Meany Middle School in the fall.



Spencer Kaake-Chittick (he/him) will be graduating from Washington Middle School. This fall he will attend Garfield High School.

Delia Zaugg Black (she/her) is graduating from Meany Middle School and will be going to Garfield High School.



Neha Sarkar (she/her) is graduating from McClure Middle School and will attend Lincoln High School.



Ella Zaugg-James (she/her) is graduating from Garfield High School and will be attending Northeastern University in Boston in the fall.



Athena Beebe (she/her) is graduating with her Master's of Music in Voice Performance from the University of Washington. Athena is moving back to AZ this summer to start a voice studio and help her parents out for the next year. She will be keeping up with performing for small companies in the meantime including Lawrence Opera Theater in Lawrence, Kansas this summer for their production of Gounod's Romeo et Juliette, then in 2022 finding a more permanent company and home to lay roots wherever in the world that may take her.

Eric Angus Jeffords (he/him) is graduating with his Bachelor of Music in Voice from the University of Washington. Next, Eric plans to build up his voice studio, and eventually move to Scotland and then Germany.



Kristen-Diane Laura-Jacqueline Pollock (she/her) is graduating with an Associate's Degree in Christian Enterprise from Christian Leaders College (an online institution with campuses in Spring Lake, MI and Clearwater, FL). Next, she plans to finish her Bachelor's Degree in Christian Leadership.

Our Life Together

Straight talk about “natural” gas

Part I: Why we’re talking about gas

If you’ve ever had to replace a home furnace, it’s likely a heating contractor recommended a new gas furnace because of cost and because gas is a “clean” fuel. Like most of us, you probably followed the contractor’s advice.

Indeed, gas is an affordable home fuel. But far from being clean, it is one of the leading drivers of the global climate emergency. In Seattle, gas and oil appliances account for one-fourth of greenhouse gas emissions — and those emissions are rising.

During the next several months, Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill will conduct an educational campaign to give you the straight truth about fossil gas in our homes and other buildings. (This group is a collaboration between Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue and Seattle First Baptist Church.) We’ll explore how communities of color and the poorest among us are disproportionately harmed by the use of gas. We’ll suggest some ways we can all work to restore — not destroy — God’s Creation. Look for more articles here and in a public forum.

Here are a few of the key points we’ll explain:

Although gas burns cleaner than coal, it also endangers our future. When methane leakage between drilling site and home is taken into account, gas causes as much global warming as coal.

“Fracking” wells and other gas infrastructure have devastating health effects on nearby communities, which are overwhelmingly poor, Black, brown, Asian, and Indigenous.

Burning gas is harmful to your health and your children’s health. Air in homes with gas stoves is often too polluted to meet outdoor air quality standards, and children who live in homes with gas stoves suffer an increased incidence of childhood asthma.

The problem of catastrophic climate change won’t be solved until we remove gas devices from every home and building. You can start by replacing your gas furnace, hot water heater and stove with non-polluting heat pumps and electric stoves. You can also support legislation to accelerate the transition to clean energy, and you can [contribute to Green Buildings Now](https://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/contribute-to-green-buildings-now) at

<https://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/climate-action.html>, which is bringing the benefits of clean energy to a community of color.

We look forward to sharing more information with you and finding out what you think.

With blessings from these members of Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill:

Joan Bowers, Elizabeth Burton, Cindy Ervin, Keith Ervin, Elizabeth Heath, Sandra Jones, Nora Langan, George Lawson, Harriet Platts, Donna Ward, Jackie Williams, and Linda Zaugg

Sunday, July 11 Regathering Worship

After worship, gather in the parking lot behind SFBC for a short liturgy and artistic sending-off of the parking lot. The lot is being redeveloped and will no longer be available for church use. We will chalk messages of hope, love, inspiration and gratitude on the parking lot following worship.

Our Life Together

Long Range Planning Update

By Jim Segaar

Small Group Ministry

Members are making updates to their recommendations based on input from the Executive Committee. Reviews are planned with the Antiracism and Senior Ministries Task Forces. A review with the congregation will be scheduled soon. The task force hopes to have a report ready for the congregation by Homecoming Sunday.

Antiracism

We did not receive an update from this task force this month.

Facilities

Task Force members met with Beth Dwyer and two other principals of the GGLO architecture firm, which may be used as a resource as the group continues to evaluate options for our facilities. Discussions continue regarding “community center” possibilities, and Social Justice advocates in SFBC will be interviewed. They continue to develop three scenarios for going forward with our buildings. The group is committed to having our mission drive their recommendations.

Governance

The group debriefed from the recent congregational meeting and is planning to add a member going forward. They are working through Articles 2, 3 and 4 of the bylaws. The recent amendment to the bylaws to add three BIPOC members to the Diaconate has caused the group to revisit earlier discussions about Diaconate numbers, nominations, and elections.

Senior Ministry

The Task Force is finalizing its recommendations, which will be shared with leadership and the congregation in the near future. **Pastoral Transition**

Two members of the task force are providing assistance to the Interim Pastoral Search. The group is gathering all the information members have collected to date, and will meet with the Program Office to review this information and determine next steps. Cherry Johnson and Harriet Platts have helped the task force process recent events that caused pain for the task force members as well as others in the congregation.

Program Office

We are beginning work on an overall schedule for the change efforts in process at SFBC. This will aid in overall change management.

See the church website: <https://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/long-range-planning.html>

Updated Dates for Camp Burton – Summer 2021



Camp Burton is planning on hosting summer camps once again this year as long as WA successfully enters Phase 3, and SFBC is excited to be a part of the magic that they create on Vashon. **Please note the updated dates!****

****July 17-24: High School (Gr 9-12)** - Teens Redeemed Adventure Camp, Includes camping/backpacking, plus “extreme element” like rafting, climbing, etc.

****August 8-13: Grade School (Gr 2-5)** - Faith Adventure Camp, Camp Burton

****August 8-13: Middle School (Gr 6-8)** - Faith Adventure Camp, Cascade Meadows

August 1-7: All Ages Family Camp - Family Camp, Camp Burton

Contact Pastor Anita at anita@seattlefirstbaptist.org or Patrick Green for info about scholarships.

Summer Programming

- ◆ Tuesday Prayer with Pastor Patricia: Weekly at 12:00
- ◆ Regular weekly Wednesday night programming (at both 6:30 and 7:30) will be on hiatus for the summer.
- ◆ Thursday Bible Study with Pastor Tim: Weekly at 12:00
- ◆ Friday Happy Hours are every other week: June 11 and June 25 4:30-5:30
- ◆ Godly Play will not meet on Sundays during June, July, and August.
- ◆ Youth Group will meet at times TBD during the summer.
- ◆ Young Adults will meet at times TBD during the summer.

Monday, June 7, 7 p.m. - Brave Space Forum

Sunday, June 13, 1 p.m. - CFYA/Next Gen Picnic

Thursday, June 17, 7 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting

Saturday, June 19, 1 p.m. - Pandemic Health Bag Assembly

Saturday, June 19, 2 p.m. - SFBC *Welcome Home* Book Event with Elliott Bay Books

Sunday, June 20 - Father's Day

Wednesday, June 23, 6 p.m. - *United States of Grace* with Lenny Duncan & Tim Phillips

Sunday, June 27 - Pride Sunday

Seattle First Baptist Regathering Plan

Questions Asked, Responses Offered - June 2021

We know you are all anxious to hear how we plan to worship together, beginning Sunday, July 11. We are so excited to be together! Please know that this will be a gradual reopening for the safety of all. We know that there are many different levels of comfort and we will start out cautious and gradually return to normal operations.

When will church happen? Beginning Sunday, July 11th we will begin in-person worship at 11:00. The service will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person. It will also be recorded for viewing at other times, and available on our website and Facebook page.

Do I need to sign up? No, we will have plenty of space for all to safely return.

What about masks? For now, we will enforce mask-wearing for **ALL** worshippers. You may wonder why fully vaccinated people can't attend without masks, or why can't we have a section for people fully vaccinated? Those are fair questions. Our staff and taskforce, considering recommendations from Washington State Dept. of Health and healthcare professionals, have decided that we will remain masked initially. You will see worship leaders remove masks when speaking from the chancel and while distanced from other leaders. **ALL WORSHIP LEADERS ARE FULLY VACCINATED.** Other than that, masks are always required during our worship service. We anticipate reviewing this policy and will likely have a new recommendation for August.

Can I come to church? We are not going to monitor vaccination status upon arrival, nor will we expect you to disclose your own vaccine status or health history. We ask that if you are sick or experiencing any symptoms of illness, or if you have been in contact with someone at risk of having COVID, that you watch from home. We also hope those who are un-vaccinated will watch from home. Please be thoughtful of your own risk, and others'. **We strongly urge all people who are eligible to choose vaccination.**

What will happen when I arrive? Parking will be completely different (See Below) Please put on your mask while you make your way to the Sanctuary doors on Harvard or Seneca. The elevator doors on Harvard will also be open. **The doors from the alley leading to the sanctuary and office building will be blocked.** When you get to the lobbies, a greeter will welcome you, and there will be an information table with a host who can answer questions and you can pick up a bulletin, assisted listening system, offering envelopes, etc.

Where do I sit? People, regardless of vaccination status, have different comfort levels in group settings and SFBC remains committed to having places for everyone in worship. As you enter the sanctuary, the sanctuary will be divided into two sections. The right section will be for those who are comfortable sitting close to all masked people. The left section will be for those who prefer more physical distance and will have every other pew marked off. We ask that you carefully respect those in this section and leave 6 feet between you and others. The center and left balcony will remain open for those who prefer even more separation. Children are welcome in the Wiggle Room.

What are those colored circles? On the welcome tables in the lobbies there will be color coded labels for you to easily indicate your comfort level with physical distancing. Red indicates that you prefer everyone maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance. Yellow indicates you are staying cautious -elbow taps only. Green means you are fully vaccinated and hugs and handshakes are welcome. Choose the color that best represents you. No judgment! Please respect everyone's level of comfort as we regather.

Can we sing?? Yes! Please fully enjoy worshipping together while continuing to wear your mask! Alleluia!

Can I bring my offering? We will collect the offering by dropping it in a locked box in either lobby as you enter or exit worship. You may also sign up for online giving at <https://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/donate.html>

Will we have coffee hour? We will not have coffee hour inside during July. If everything goes as planned, we we will begin in August.

What about Bathrooms? The bathrooms on the Sanctuary level (by the chapel and by the choir room) will be open. Please use these bathrooms during July. Please refrain from going downstairs for the first few weeks.

Can I hang out with my church family before and after worship? So that all worshippers can comfortably enter and exit while maintaining safe distance, please gather outside as appropriate to greet people and re-connect. Please do not stand in the lobbies or line-up to greet the pastors after worship.

For heaven's sake, where do I park? By now you likely know that parking will be significantly different when you return to worship on July 11th. We ask for the following things in this transition time:

- Please read this information. If you do not understand or have questions, reach out to Darren in the church office.
- Please follow the rules closely. Use of these three lots is mostly being donated. The owners of these lots have various restrictions, and if we do not honor them, **we will no longer be able to use these resources.**
- Please arrive early the first time you come on Sunday morning. If you have problems or need information, staff members will be onsite to direct you.
- Please be patient. This will be a big learning experience and transition for all. We have worked hard for a smooth process, but there may be a few issues to work out.
- The main Poly Clinic lot has asked us NOT to put up directional signs on the street so it will be helpful if you make sure you know where the entrance is. (See Below)

There are two lots available:

1) **Seneca Dental Lot (8 spaces) for cars with official handicapped permits displayed. (422 Seneca Street. Corner of Seneca and Harvard)**

To use this lot you must have an official state issued handicap permit AND a permit from the office which is valid for a year. Contact the church office ASAP to have an SFBC permit mailed to you. If you do not have an official handicapped permit but will have significant difficulty walking from the Poly Clinic and do not have a driver who can drop you off at the church, let the church office know and we will issue you a permit for this lot **if there is space available.**

2) **Poly Clinic Lot (200+ spaces) for general parking and staff parking. (1145 Broadway just south of East Union)**

This is the easiest lot to use. You will be given a permanent pass when you arrive the first time. After that, just display the permit on your window when you arrive on Sunday mornings. Please note that at no time may church members or guests enter the building or use the elevators. This is a very strict provision for our continued use.

On a regular Sunday this Summer both lots are available from 9:30-1:30. Extended hours may be available for special events and will be advertised with each event.

If you need an SFBC pass for the Seneca Dental lot, please contact the church office ASAP by e-mailing contact@seattlefirstbaptist.org or calling 206-325-6051. You may also direct questions to darren@seattlefirstbaptist.org