



the Spire

The Monthly Newsletter of Seattle First Baptist Church



From the Pastor's Desk

IT'S SPRING! Fall is my favorite season of the year, but spring is a close second. It is so fun to watch new things sprout every day! Tulips, forsythia, camellias, and cherry blossoms are everywhere. In this season, I am reminded that not only is new life possible—new life is promised. We can count on the quiet slumber of winter eventually giving way to springtime brilliance.

For followers of the way of Jesus, this season of Lent will soon give way to resurrection and new life. Our Lenten theme has been "Simple Joys of Grace". While Lent traditionally is seen as a time of reflection, confession, and repentance, we have chosen this year to focus on the blessings and grace-filled moments we've felt even during a pandemic. And yes, there have been many.

As a congregation we are in a season of transition with our pastoral staff and in implementing our new governance structure. Yet, in the midst of significant change, we continue to be blessed as a congregation. Our worship services have been inspiring, coffee hour is back, our online worshippers are still with

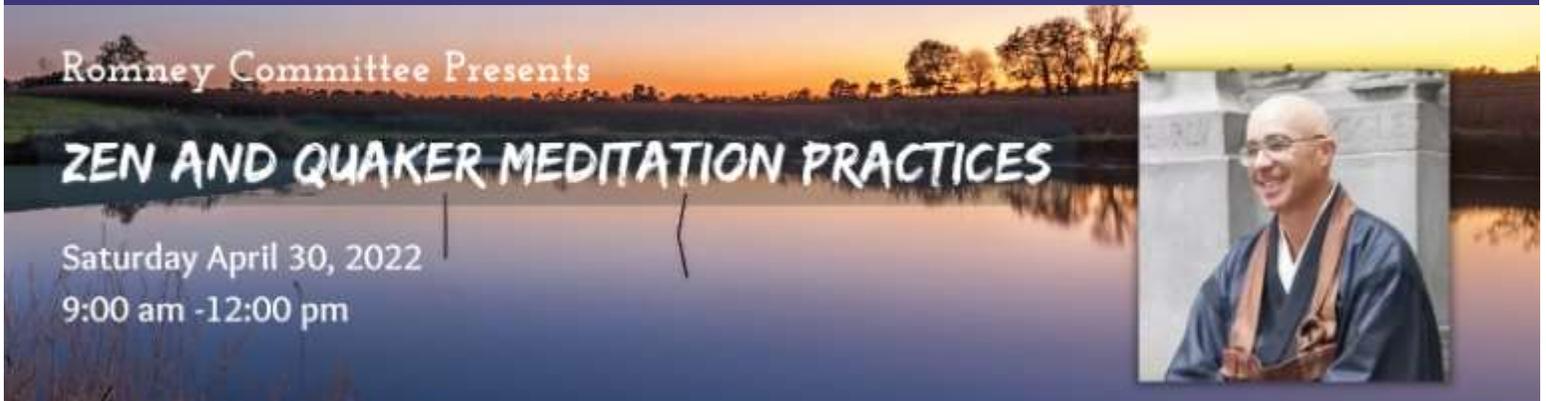
us, financially we are doing well, and so many members and friends have stepped up to volunteered where needed. Blessings are springing up all around us.

Easter, or Resurrection Sunday, also reminds us that new life is possible after hardship and death. In Godly Play we speak of the mystery of Easter. No one knows how new life happens, it is a gift of grace. It is a gift from the Holy One. Our faith teaches us not to lose hope when things change, or when we do not get our way. That's just life. Instead, we can look for the blessing in the challenge. There is comfort in knowing Easter will always follow Lent.

So, as you marvel at the miracle of spring--smell the flowers, plant seeds, and listen for raucous singing birds. There are blessings in our changing seasons and blessings amid our changes at Seattle First Baptist Church. The only things constant in life are change and God's love. And nothing can separate us from the love of God—not even change. Be blessed and be encouraged.

~ Pastor Patricia L. Hunter

Learning Together



As we face many contemporary crises, the ability to center ourselves through meditation and prayer has never been more important. On Saturday April 30, Genjo Marinello - abbot of the Seattle Zen temple Chobo-Ji and a member of the University Friends Meeting (Quakers) - will present a program on Zen and Quaker meditation practices. This will take place at Seattle First Baptist Church in Fellowship Hall from 9 AM - 12 noon, and will be followed by a complementary lunch. You can attend this program either in-person or online. Marinello will also participate in worship with us the next day, Sunday May 1.

Genjo Marinello Roshi studied Zen in Japan and has led Zen retreats in Europe and the US. His book [Reflections on AWAKENING AND MATURITY: FOR SPIRITUAL COMPANIONS](#) was published just last year. Marinello Roshi's visit is sponsored by SFBC's Dr. Rodney Romney Legacy Fund. Dr. Romney was pastor of Seattle First Baptist Church from 1980-2000 and supported programs that explore personal spiritual growth and the contemplative way of life.

REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT

To attend in person, register by calling (206) 325-6051 or emailing the church office front_office@seattlefirstbaptist.org.

To attend by Zoom, register at [this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdOmtqzgiE9TUICYmE9SIpkc0-QfIUMJz](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdOmtqzgiE9TUICYmE9SIpkc0-QfIUMJz)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

To register, we are suggesting a donation of \$10. Write a check to SFBC or donate securely online to SFBC with the memo: Meditation Retreat.

PARKING

We recommend using public transportation if possible as parking near SFBC is limited. Paid parking is available at the Polyclinic side lot (entrance off Seneca) and the Harvard Market. Street parking is also available. Public transit nearby includes the #2 Bus Line (Seneca & Boylston stop) and the Streetcar (Broadway & Pike/Pine stop). The church is a 15-minute walk or a short bus ride from the Capitol Hill light rail station.

Bible Study in April

Noon on Thursdays on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86761779225>

Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128 | Meeting ID: 867 6177 9225

One tap mobile +12532158782 then enter 86761779225# US (Tacoma)

April 7: John 12:1-8

April 14: Matthew 21:1-11

April 21: Easter accounts in all gospels (Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18)

April 28: John 20:19-31

Worshiping Together

Lenten Worship in the Style of Taizé

Wednesdays at 5:30 pm (3/9 – 4/13) on Zoom

Worship in the style of Taizé comes from the small ecumenical monastery in southern France, for which it is named. Taizé services feature short readings of poetry and scripture, and simple repetitive songs that create a meditative atmosphere. Pastor Anita visited Taizé as an undergrad and is sharing the simple beauty of this worship style with you during Lent. To volunteer to help Pastor Anita host these services, please email her: anita@seattlefirstbaptist.org.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86369247250>

Meeting ID: 863 6924 7250 | Join via phone +12532158782 then dial code 86369247250#

Worship during Holy Week and Easter

Sunday, April 10, 2022, Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday Worship at 11:00 am, in person and [online](#).

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Lenten Worship in the style of Taizé. 5:30 pm on [Zoom](#).

Friday, April 15, 2022, Good Friday

6pm in SFBC's Fellowship Hall. Simple dinner provided. All ages welcome. This service is a collaboration with Mount Zion Baptist Church.

Sunday, April 17, 2022, Easter Day

Easter Breakfast at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. Worship at 11:00 am, in person and [online](#).



Growing Together

Sunday Programming for Kids and Their Grown-Ups

Godly Play for kids in kindergarten through 5th grade continues in person at 9:30 on Sundays in the Godly Play room.

Parents, guardians, grandparents and whoever is bringing kiddos to church are welcome to join Pastor Anita in the 3rd Floor Youth Room from 9:30-10:30 while kids are in Godly Play.

Then, from 10:30-11:00, kids are welcome to use the gym with their own adult supervision to get out wiggles before worship. The Brawley/Wiggle Room is available for families wishing to worship together during 11am service.



Easter Breakfast

Don your Easter bonnet with all the frills upon it and join your church for the Easter Sunday Breakfast! After two years without this gathering, we are looking forward to sharing a meal on Sunday morning, April 17, at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Save the Dates for 2022 Christian Youth Camps at Camp Burton

- ◆ GRADE SCHOOL CAMP July 31-August 5th, 2022 \$250
- ◆ MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP July 31-August 5th, 2022 \$250
- ◆ [Teens Redeemed Adventure Camp - Grades 9 To 12](#) July 24-30, 2022 \$325

Scholarships will be available. Contact Pastor Anita for more information. Find out more about Camp Burton youth camps here: <https://www.campburton.com/facilities/christian-youth-camps/>



EASTER BUNNY

Meet and Greet

Photo Booth ~ Crafts ~ Easter treats

———— Sat April 16, 2022 ————

10:00-1:00



On the corner of
Harvard & Seneca



Easter Saturday Event

All kids are welcome to an Easter Bunny Meet-and-Greet on Saturday, April 16 from 10-1 at SFBC! The event will take place on the corner of Harvard and Seneca, rain or shine! Come meet the Easter Bunny (she's vaxxed!), take some cute spring photos with the family, share a snack and do a craft! All are welcome.

Our Lives Together

Romney Fund Gift Makes a Difference

Dear Margaret and Seattle First Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for your recent gift to Lutheran Community Services Northwest's refugee resettlement program. This program had been running a skeleton crew for the past 4 years serving roughly 250 refugees yearly. That changed urgently with the swift withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan.

Now LCS Northwest is caring for the resettlement of 800+ Afghan refugees. **Your donation** helps us to grow, adjust and serve these refugees immediately.

LCSNW offers legal support, housing navigation, career support, and other basic needs support to help these families and allies with their urgent needs. **Your donation** helps us to quickly surround each refugee with basic needs like housing, food, clothing, transportation, and monetary assistance.

To see a video of the work you are helping us to do [click here](#). And if you have time or would like to meet virtually or in person, please let me know, it would be wonderful to get to know you and your passion for helping others.

With gratitude,

Kari Young (*she/her/hers*)

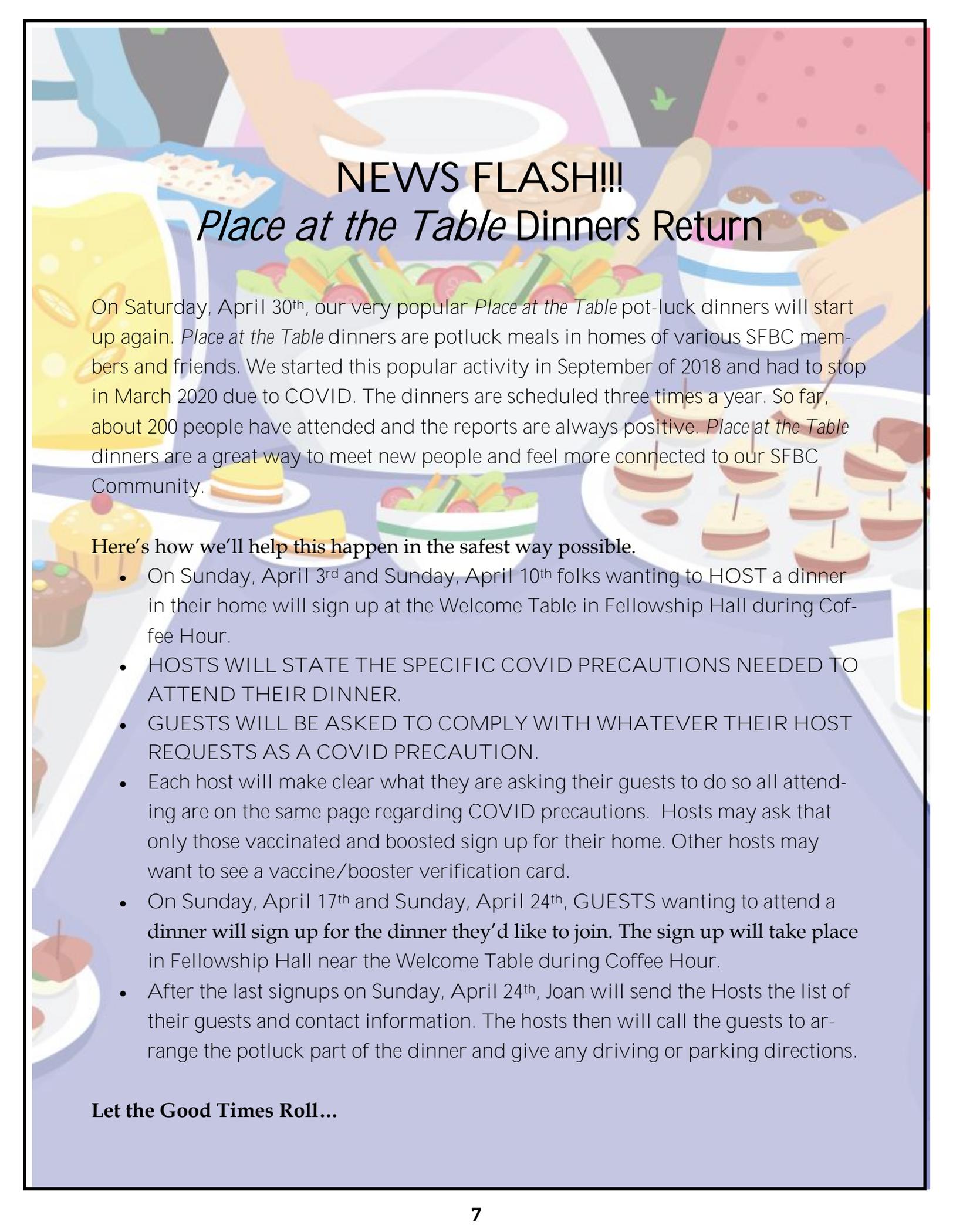
Director of Major Gifts ~ www.lcsnw.org



This photo is from a family who arrived late in 2021. This family is now safely living in the PNW and taking the steps to create a sustainable life here. Thank you for helping to make their resettlement possible.



A Century of Health, Justice and Hope
Est. 1921



NEWS FLASH!!!

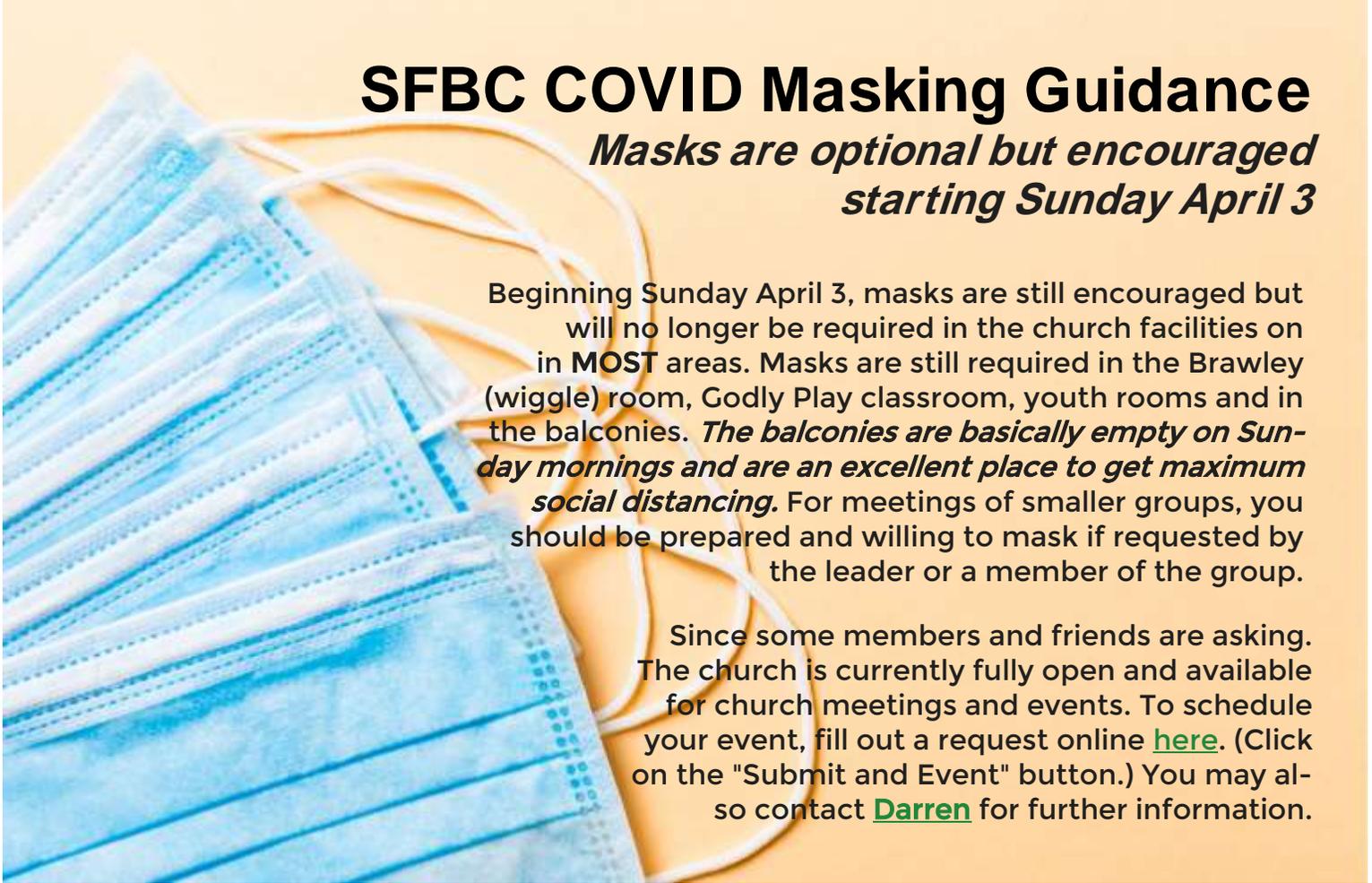
Place at the Table Dinners Return

On Saturday, April 30th, our very popular *Place at the Table* pot-luck dinners will start up again. *Place at the Table* dinners are potluck meals in homes of various SFBC members and friends. We started this popular activity in September of 2018 and had to stop in March 2020 due to COVID. The dinners are scheduled three times a year. So far, about 200 people have attended and the reports are always positive. *Place at the Table* dinners are a great way to meet new people and feel more connected to our SFBC Community.

Here's how we'll help this happen in the safest way possible.

- On Sunday, April 3rd and Sunday, April 10th folks wanting to HOST a dinner in their home will sign up at the Welcome Table in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour.
- HOSTS WILL STATE THE SPECIFIC COVID PRECAUTIONS NEEDED TO ATTEND THEIR DINNER.
- GUESTS WILL BE ASKED TO COMPLY WITH WHATEVER THEIR HOST REQUESTS AS A COVID PRECAUTION.
- Each host will make clear what they are asking their guests to do so all attending are on the same page regarding COVID precautions. Hosts may ask that only those vaccinated and boosted sign up for their home. Other hosts may want to see a vaccine/booster verification card.
- On Sunday, April 17th and Sunday, April 24th, GUESTS wanting to attend a **dinner will sign up for the dinner they'd like to join. The sign up will take place** in Fellowship Hall near the Welcome Table during Coffee Hour.
- After the last signups on Sunday, April 24th, Joan will send the Hosts the list of their guests and contact information. The hosts then will call the guests to arrange the potluck part of the dinner and give any driving or parking directions.

Let the Good Times Roll...



SFBC COVID Masking Guidance

Masks are optional but encouraged starting Sunday April 3

Beginning Sunday April 3, masks are still encouraged but will no longer be required in the church facilities on in **MOST** areas. Masks are still required in the Brawley (wiggly) room, Godly Play classroom, youth rooms and in the balconies. *The balconies are basically empty on Sunday mornings and are an excellent place to get maximum social distancing.* For meetings of smaller groups, you should be prepared and willing to mask if requested by the leader or a member of the group.

Since some members and friends are asking. The church is currently fully open and available for church meetings and events. To schedule your event, fill out a request online [here](#). (Click on the "Submit and Event" button.) You may also contact [Darren](#) for further information.



SAVE THE DATE

SENIOR RETREAT
RAINBOW LODGE
JULY 13-15, 2022

The Story Behind

The Alaska Suite and Green Buildings Now

During the next few weeks, you'll be hearing about an upcoming concert on Sunday, May 15, at 3 p.m. in the Seattle First Baptist Church Sanctuary. The Nelda Swiggett Quintet will perform *The Alaska Suite: a Story of Beauty, Loss and Hope* as a benefit for Green Buildings Now.

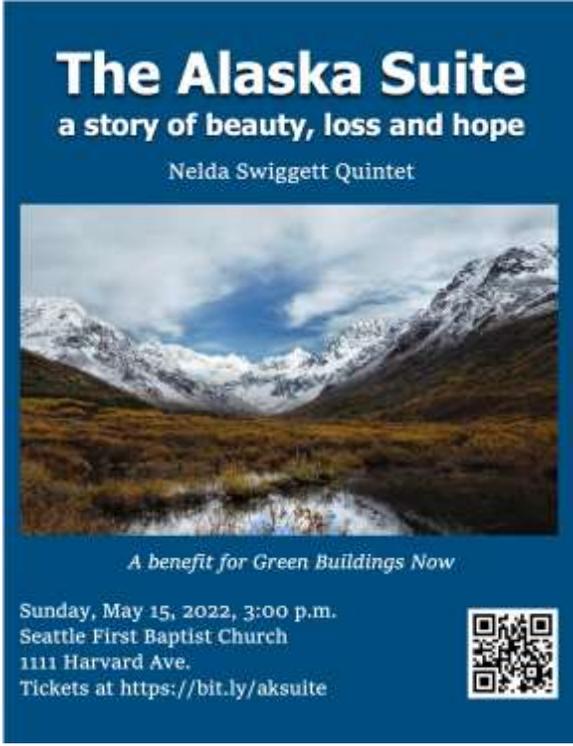
What is this musical work, and what is Green Buildings Now?

Several years ago, jazz pianist Nelda Swiggett asked Interfaith Climate Action -

First Hill if this partnership of SFBC and Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue would help her bring a concept to life: using music, images and spoken word to immerse audiences in the story of how climate change is reshaping Alaska. We offered a venue, and she completed her extraordinary composition.

Since premiering the work at SFBC, the Nelda Swiggett Quintet has performed *The Alaska Suite* numerous times around this state, using the performing arts to tell important truths and move people to action. This work demonstrates how the performing arts can advance an important cause.

Fast forward to the start of the pandemic. Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill began exploring how people of faith could reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our community. We proposed creation of a fund that would eliminate pollution from buildings by replacing gas-burning devices with non-polluting electric appliances.



The Alaska Suite
a story of beauty, loss and hope
Nelda Swiggett Quintet

A benefit for Green Buildings Now

Sunday, May 15, 2022, 3:00 p.m.
Seattle First Baptist Church
1111 Harvard Ave.
Tickets at <https://bit.ly/aksuite>



During a series of meetings with environmental justice advocates from Got Green, Spark Northwest, Bethany United Church of Christ and the Beacon Hill Council, these community leaders gave us a clear message: Please help us create a South Beacon Hill Resilience Hub that will provide a place of refuge to residents during extreme heat and cold events. (Heat pumps, in combination with solar power and battery backup, are intended to operate un-

der all conditions.) The Bethany/Resilience Hub campus houses people-of-color-led organizations Got Green, a Refugee Women's Alliance preschool, the Black Power Epicenter and the Nurturing Roots farm.

Seattle First Baptist Church, with support from other congregations and groups, has created a Green Buildings Now fund to support weatherization and decarbonization in marginalized communities, starting with the resilience hub on the Bethany UCC campus. In February, this fund accomplished the first work, insulation of the main building on campus. Much more work remains to be done.

Green Buildings Now and its partners need your help to achieve the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting creation of a climate-resilient community hub. Don't miss the important May 15 *Alaska Suite* community event (tickets at <https://bit.ly/aksuite>), and please consider [making a donation](#) to Green Buildings Now.

Concert Spotlight

Duende Libre Quintet

April 3, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Seattle Jazz Vespers is proud to present the **Duende Libre Quintet** on Sunday, April 3, 2022 at 6 p.m..

Alex Chadsey - piano; Farko Dosumov - electric bass; Jeff “Bongo” Busch - drums; Frank Anderson - vocals and percussion; Chava Mirel - vocals, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist



Duende Libre utilizes the American jazz tradition as a point of departure for daring explorations of rhythm & influences from the Americas, Europe and Africa yielding catchy melodies, lush harmonies, and wholehearted groove.

Duende Libre translates roughly as “free spirit” and Chadsey has certainly felt it within the trio, putting out three albums in swift succession. Formed in 2016, they released their self-titled debut album in 2017, an album rooted in American jazz painted warmly by thick brush strokes of Latin elements. Their second album, *Drift*, was released in the spring of 2018. It increased their musical palette—touching on the folk traditions of Europe, Africa, and beyond.

Their new quintet adds yet more color to the band’s work. It was largely inspired by the addition of two musicians to the lineup—Frank Anderson (vocals and percussion) and Chava Mirel (vocals). Adding them added to the chemistry of the group as a whole.

Anderson has been performing in and around Seattle since 1986 as an R&B singer, percussionist, and dancer. Chava Mirel is an electrifying singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Chava Mirel’s own quartet premiered at Seattle Jazz Vespers in November of 2019.



STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Anita Peebles (x106)
Pastor: Next Gen Ministries
anita@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Rev. Dr. Patricia L. Hunter
Pastor of Education & Outreach
patricia@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Darren Hochstedler (x102)
Church Administrator
Darren@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Ben Luedcke
Minister of Music
ben@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Judy Scott (x101)
Office Administrator
Front_office@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Dick Steele
Facilities Maintenance
dick@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Christina Sunstone
Communications
christina@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Cherry Johnson
Retreats Coordinator
retreats@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Kellie Whitlock
Sound/Video Engineer, Graphic Arts
kellie@seattlefirstbaptist.org

Niko Purcell
Administrative Assistant
niko@seattlefirstbaptist.org

2022 Officers and Church Leaders

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

Officers	President: Megan Walker VP: Dick Miller Treasurer: Metta Williams Secretary: Eric Watness
Members at Large	Inola de la Cruz David Delgado Martha Hopler Nirmala Jeldi Bob Sittig Christine Warren

Service at 11 a.m. in-person and online

Seattle First Baptist Church
1111 Harvard Ave, Seattle WA 98112

Phone: 206-325-6051

Online: www.seattlefirstbaptist.org
facebook.com/SeattleFirstBaptist/
instagram.com/seattlefirstbaptist/

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Seattle First Baptist Church
1111 Harvard Ave
Seattle WA 98122-4261

Holy Week & Easter

Worship at Seattle First Baptist Church



Wednesday, April 13, 2022:

Lenten Worship in the Style of Taizé. 5:30 pm on Zoom.

Friday, April 15, 2022, Good Friday:

6pm on April 15 in SFBC's Fellowship Hall. Simple dinner provided. All ages welcome. This service is a collaboration with Mount Zion Baptist Church.

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