

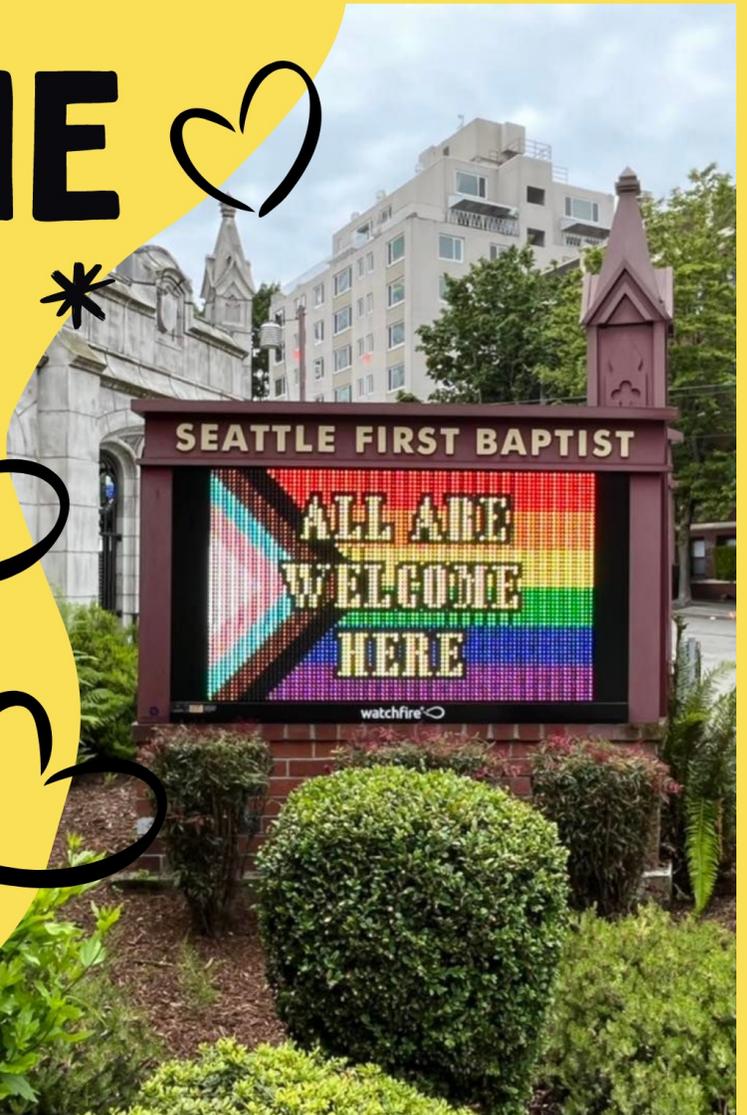


the Spire

The Monthly Newsletter of Seattle First Baptist Church



WELCOME HOME!



FALL 2022



Hold On!



From the Pastor's Desk

Beloveds, what a year 2022 has been so far. At times joyful, at times filled with grief, and seemingly always surrounded by change. Something moving, shifting, growing, retreating, becoming. That's what I think in my best, most put-together moments: we are becoming, individually and collectively. In my not-very-put-together moments, I feel like I'm riding the mechanical bull at the fair—holding on for dear life, trying not to fall off. That seems to be expected in these tangled up and trying times—everyone is holding on for dear life, trying not to get bogged down by the weights of grief and illness and loss and political turmoil and overwhelmed by the tide of rising fascism. And we all have different tactics for holding on. Sometimes we grab onto what is stable so tightly that we risk suffocating those things. Sometimes we try to hold loosely so that we can be limber and move with the erratic shifts of the bull...but then we risk slipping off and losing ourselves. And sometimes we just numb ourselves, unwilling to participate, unwilling to risk anything, unwilling to care enough to get involved. "If we just keep our heads down, we'll get through it," "if I can just make it a bit longer...," "if I just do my own thing and don't let anyone else affect me, I can keep on my path," we think.

All of these reactions are understandable, dear ones. All of these reactions to a world in turmoil are based on self-preservation, a core emotion that we all have in one way or another. But however you are reacting to life situations and the politics of this world and beyond, I hope that you realize that you are not alone. It may feel like it sometimes, or often, but you are not alone. Just by reading these words, you are participating in our community of faith. I am holding you in prayer, and so is our church, as together we face a future that is shifting and uncertain, yes, but also holds promise and opportunity, however small it may be. This is what makes our community great—we think about and pray for and check on and hold each other through the good times and the bad, the celebrations and the sorrows. Remember the Blessing of the Backpacks on August 28? That's what it was about—assuring the children and youth in our church, as well as all of us, that they are not alone and that there is a community that loves them and that God goes with them in all aspects of their lives.

And as we begin a new school year (already?!), I hope you will join me in welcoming some of the new members of our staff team.

Pastor Mario is no stranger, of course, as he has been with us since July 1! He has already added so much to our life together, with his compassionate care, pastoral presence and prophetic preaching on the need to take action to combat climate change. And we welcome Christian Broughton as our Organist and Communications Manager (see Ben Luedcke's article on page 7 for more). Christian brings a wealth of experience as a born and raised American Baptist as well as a proficient organist and creative communications leader.

Friends, a favorite hymn of mine includes the line, "through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing, it sounds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing?" That is the thought I wish to impart for you today. Through all the tumult and strife, through the unknowns and the yet-to-be-revealed, let us keep singing together. Doesn't have to be a happy song or on key, but hold on to that feeling of singing together, of joining our voices together to remind each other that we are not alone. Thanks be to God.

I love you and I love being your pastor. ~Pastor Anita



October 28-30, 2022

Cle Elum, WA

RSVP and register by September 25 to secure your spot

Sliding scale \$50-\$150, scholarships available

Contact Pastor Anita for more information

RSVP by filling out registration form by September 25.

<https://forms.gle/BKFWkdgZ25rEVrDj8>

Growing Together

Prayer Time

Noon Prayer on Tuesdays will continue! Pastor Anita and Pastor Mario will host this weekly time of reflection, sharing and prayer. 12pm every Tuesday. All are welcome to join on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86776242649>

Meeting ID: 867 7624 2649

253-215-8782

Bible Study

Join Pastor Anita and Pastor Mario on Thursdays at noon for our Zoom Bible Study. We start October 6.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86761779225>

Meeting ID: 867 6177 9225

253-215-8782

Youth Group

Gather at SFBC Youth Room, Wednesday September 14 6:30-8 for introductory event, pizza dinner and games. Ages 6th-12th grade welcome. Contact Pastor Anita for more information.

Help Plan Next Gen Sunday!

NextGen Sunday is October 2! All kids and youth are welcome to come to a planning session on Zoom on September 13 from 5-6pm. We will plan the worship service and assign roles to each participant. If you can't make it, please let Pastor Anita know what you'd like to contribute!

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87347840679>

Meeting ID: 873 4784 0679

253-215-8782



Learning Together

Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill Book Club

When you want to get away from it all and curl up with a good book, you probably don't think about climate emergency. Fortunately, some of the best contemporary writers have brought an ample measure of wit, humor and urgency to the subject.

Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill invites you to a discussion series focusing on three of the most readable and thoughtful books about the unprecedented challenge humanity faces. (This group is a collaboration between SFBC and Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue.)

Here are the books we're reading, with Zoom links. Come to one discussion or all three. Give yourself a little extra time to read Robinson's lengthy but rewarding "The Ministry for the Future."



Bill McKibben, *Falter: Has the Human Game Begun to Play Itself Out?* Tuesday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m. "... its most stirring takeaway is perhaps McKibben's soulful insistence that choices remain. We are the only creatures, he asserts, who can impose limits on themselves." — The Washington Post.

Discussion led by Linda Zaugg.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89692038619>

Kim Stanley Robinson's novel, *The Ministry for the Future*, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m. "There is no shortage of sardonic humour here, a cosmopolitan range of sympathies, and a steely, visionary optimism." — The Guardian.

Discussion led by Alan Ness.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87163501008>

Andreas Malm, *How to Blow Up a Pipeline: Learning to Fight in a World on Fire*, Tuesday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m. "Plenty of readers will react (as I did) with a sort of instinctive skepticism to Malm's case that only widespread property destruction can forestall civilizational suicide, but his case deserves a hearing." —The New Republic. Discussion led by Keith Ervin.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84516549578>

NOTE: If you wish to participate but cannot obtain a copy of the book(s) from a library and do not have the resources to buy them, call the church office or email smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org.

Our Lives Together

Godspeed and *Zatial' sa Maj** to Christina Sunstone

Our Communications Manager Christina Sunstone is leaving SFBC and heading to the city of Bratislava, Slovakia this fall, where she will serve under the Service and Justice arm of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). She will be teaching English – something she has done for more than 10 years here in the United States -- at a bilingual parochial high school there.

The ELCA sends volunteers every year to several schools in Slovakia and Poland as part of its affiliation with the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (ECAC) there. These countries need English speakers and writers in all areas of society as they face the challenges and opportunities of their move toward market economies and entrance into the European Union and NATO. But there's another important aspect to the work Christina will be doing there, which is the mission of accompaniment. She

is going to Slovakia to act as a witness to the lives, concerns, and struggles of the people who live there, and to walk together in mutuality and interdependence with them.

Our new organizer Christian Broughton will be taking on communications and digital services, in addition to his music ministry, when he starts at SFBC in September. Follow Christina on Facebook if you'd like to stay up to date with what she's doing, seeing, and learning during her year in Bratislava! Or just reach out to her by email anytime: c.sunstone@proton.me.



The Place at the Table Dinners Begin Again!

Please join the fun of either hosting or attending a POTLUCK DINNER in the home of one of our SFBC Community members or friends. We began these dinners in peoples' homes in 2018 and to date, 232 people have dined together as part of this Small Group Ministry program.

The first dinner for the 2022 church year is on Saturday evening, September 24th.

If you want to HOST, please sign-up after services on either Sunday, August 28th or Sunday, September 4th near the Welcome Table downstairs in Fellowship Hall. GUESTS will then choose which dinner they want to attend on the following Sundays, September 11th and September 18th at the Welcome Table.

If you prefer to attend the Virtual Place at the Table via Zoom, please check the Church Calendar for the link to the on-line dinner hosted by Cherry Johnson.

If you have any questions, please call the Church at 206-325-6051 and ask to have Joan Benner give you a call.

Let the good times roll!

Worshiping Together

Pastor's Search Committee Report

On behalf of the Pastor's Search Committee and the Personnel Committee, we want to provide an update to the congregation an update from the Pastor's Search Committee. We have begun to receive some applications, although most of our time to this point has been devoted to obtaining an understanding of our role, getting to know one another on the Committee, hearing from our current pastors, and hearing from a co-pastors from other churches. Rev. Doug Avilesbernal spoke to the Committee about resources that were available to our Committee, both his assistance and that of the Evergreen Association. We spent one entire meeting getting to know each other on the Committee and sharing our visions of our role on the Committee. Pastor Anita shared her thoughts about the qualities and personality of our prospective new co-pastor. Finally, we heard from Rev. Dr. Amy Mears, co-pastor of Glendale Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, about her experiences as a co-pastor and about her church's search for a second co-pastor. We believe that God will lead us to the co-pastor that would be the best fit and personality to serve as a co-pastor of Seattle First Baptist Church.

Jim Thompson,
Vice-Chair of the Pastor's Search Committee

Welcome Christian



The organ/piano search committee is thrilled to introduce Christian Broughton as our new organist and pianist. For over eight years, Christian has been working as a professional musician and Episcopal music director in central New York. His father is a retired minister having served at First Baptist Church in Tacoma (now Urban Grace) from 1987 to 1997. He is thrilled to have this opportunity to return to his American Baptist roots — and to the Pacific Northwest — which he still considers home. Christian is excited to explore Seattle and looks forward to settling into his new apartment not far from the church. We are thrilled to be in worship with him on his first Sunday, September 11th, for our fall Homecoming celebration.

Christian studied organ with Stephen Best, Dean of the Central New York Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. In support of Christian's application as our organist/pianist, Stephen Best wrote to our search committee that, "when we worked on recital music, there was no question that he had that "something extra" that we who teach treasure in

our students.” In his interview, Christian made clear that above all else, accompanying the church’s song — leading the congregation in great hymns from the organ — is what he finds most important in his calling as a church musician. In addition to his wonderfully sensitive piano playing, the committee was also struck by his honesty and warm spirit.

Christian has many talents: his degree from Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, New York is in both music and graphic design. He also has experience with church communications and media, so as he begins his relationship with Seattle First Baptist this fall as our new organist and pianist, he will also be working with our church staff in charge of church communications.

As the chair of the search committee, I’d like to say thank you to the team: Brian Lew, Darla O’Brian, Margie Paynton, and Pastor Anita Peebles. We are thrilled for you all to meet Christian this fall, and we look forward to this musical and spiritual relationship.

Ben Luedcke
Minister of Music



Anti-racism Training

In February Reverend Douglas Avilesbernal led us in an introduction to First Aid training to address the hurt and pain caused by racism. He urged us to use the ABCs of first aid; that is to Act, Be present and to Conspire to create a path for those who have been hurt. Seattle First Baptist Church will now engage Reverend Avilesbernal's “Wound Care” to address the hurt that has been identified. Wound Care requires cleaning the wound in order for it to heal. Our next session on First Aid for Racism will occur on September 13, 7:00 to 8:30 PM via Zoom. Reverend Avilesbernal will take us deeper into the process of addressing racism. Please make yourself available for this important session. Check the calendar for Zoom information.

Feeling left out because of technology?

If you don't have electronic devices, don't know how to do Zoom on your electronic device, or otherwise feel left out when things are only offered on Zoom – and yet you would like to participate in one or more of the Small Groups that are being offered this Fall, call the Church Office 206-325-6051 and leave your name and phone number. Someone from the Small Group Ministry Advisory Group will contact you to see if there's a way we can help!

SFBC's Worship, Arts, and Hospitality Committee

Sunday morning is the center of our life together at SFBC—the worship service and the hospitality we experience are part of how we serve each other and our community. And we need your help to steward an inclusive, beautiful and comfortable Sunday experience! The new Worship, Arts, and Hospitality (WAH) Committee is both visionary and practical and focuses primarily on the Sunday experience. Our charge is to create an inclusive environment for Sunday worship and fellowship that welcomes, affirms, and engages the congregation. Our goals include 1) participate in planning for worship each season with a focus on antiracism and inclusion; 2) plan for and help with decorating the sanctuary seasonally and weekly; 3) plan for activities on Sunday mornings that make all worshipers, both in person and online, feel welcome and comfortable; 4) identify volunteers needed to support Sunday morning worship in person and online and recruit pools of volunteers to fill those roles.

Specific areas related to the Sunday experience to be addressed by the WAH Committee include:

Worship: communion; baptism; worship leaders; ushers and greeters; decorations, including flowers and seasonal decorations; meditative worship opportunities; creating an inclusive/interfaith environment

Hospitality: Welcome Table, activities before and/or after worship; coffee hour; breakfasts and lunches; fostering a hybrid church in which both in-person worshipers and online worshipers are engaged and share leadership; incorporating the voice of the congregation in worship planning

Music and Arts: Incorporating the arts into the worship service and throughout the building (both appreciation and participation)

We've identified several immediate ways for the congregation to be engaged in supporting worship, and we invite you sign up at the Welcome Table on Homecoming Sunday or on the church website for these activities:

To be an usher or greeter—or to schedule volunteers for these activities

To indicate your interest in **worship leadership** (Scripture reading, prayer, weekly announcements, Time with Children)

To provide **Communion Table flowers** for a special occasion in your life or family or in memory or honor of someone special—or be the volunteer flower scheduler for flowers

To help with **decorating the church** for Advent and Christmas

To **order a copy of our hymnal** to use when worshipping virtually.

If you feel called to give back to our church in one of these ways, or you are interested and want more information, please see the Volunteer page on the website (<https://www.seattlefirstbaptist.org/volunteer/>) or contact [Pastor Anita](#).

Be Nice!

Kristen-Diane Pollock, B.CL.

I hold a once a month service at the Senior Living Facility that I work at full-time as a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant). In June I mentioned in my sermon that in organized religion, like athletics, you begin to plan your next event/season, in our case service, immediately after you finish the previous one. Actually it didn't take me very long to start this sermon at all. Hours after I left you I found people that I have been friends with for many, many years, who are some of my oldest friends, being bigoted and ignorant towards a certain group of protected class citizens. Now many of you know, and for those of you who don't know I do NOT condone bigotry and ignorance of any kind.

Lately I see more and more and more bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and blatant ignorance on this Earth. God doesn't want us to be bigots. God doesn't want us to be prejudiced. God doesn't want us to be ignorant. As humans we're supposed to learn something new everyday. I know people that say "Oh I can't learn anymore I'm set in my ways and can't change." For people with that attitude I say you're wrong. As a matter of fact, I know you've heard the old saying "You can't teach an old dog new tricks" and that is totally incorrect. Someone once told me "yes you can teach an old dog new tricks it just takes a longer time to do so."

Can one change their ways? Does God want us to change our ways? The answer to both is YES! In the Old Testament God uses Moses to demand the release of the Israelites from the captivity of slavery. In the New Testament Jesus' parables chronically show the changes that need to occur in attitude. There will always be hatred, there will always be bigotry, there will always be voluntary ignorance. How do we deal with it? We take the attitude like I have "What others do is between them and God, not me, them, and God." Really folks it's seriously that simple.

Somebody angered you? Go ahead and talk with them, IF you can. If they blow you off or treat your concerns as invalid to the point where you can't discuss the issue with them, that's when you get someone in authority over you involved, and that's the only time. If nothing works out, go back to the attitude of "Well my anger I'll have to deal with yet what you did is between you and God, not me, you, and God!" Prejudice, Ignorance, Bigotry, these aren't the things of God! Do those things anger me? Yes, yes they do? Have things in the past dealing with those classifications brought me to tears? You bet! However, lately I've been determined to try to always remember that if those who choose those ways don't want to change then they can deal with God on Judgment Day for their actions.

As the Hymn from the Episcopal Church reminds us: Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on Earth, Lord God Heavenly King, Almighty God and Father we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your Glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. You are Seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer, for you alone are the only one, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father, Amen!

Kristen-Diane Pollock has been a member of SFBC since 2010 and is a part of our "scattered" community who worships from afar.

SMALL GROUPS MINISTRY - IT'S HERE!

Do you long for more opportunities to really get to know some other members of the congregation? Would you like to mix it up a bit and develop friendships with people who sit nowhere near you on Sunday mornings or whose experience is very different than yours? Have you been longing for Adult Education to return? Have you been coming to SFBC for weeks or months or years and still don't feel like you know many people or have found your place?

Well, the new Small Groups Ministry is "launching" in September, and it has something to offer you! Or several somethings. On Sunday, September 18th, this ministry will be commissioned during the service. Below is a list of all the groups which will be happening this season. Some are for faith exploration, some for study, some for serving justice, some for relationship-building or support, some just for fun. All groups and their locations or zoom links are listed on the church calendar and can soon be found on the church website as well. With the exception of the Play Reading Circle, you do not have to sign up in advance to attend.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to all of you who submitted ideas for groups (70+ suggestions!) and to those listed below who are volunteering their time and presence to lead this first round of groups. Anyone with further ideas for the next round of or who is interested in exploring group leadership or who simply has a question, email Smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org or call the church office (206-325-6051).

And thank you to the Small Groups Ministry Advisory Group who has been working all year to make this happen: Susan Blythe-Goodman, Daryl de la Cruz, Janet Hasselblad, Martha Hopley, Cherry Johnson, Wendy Van Koevering and Linda Zaugg!

FALL 2022 GROUP OFFERINGS

Bible Study with Pastor Anita

Resumes on October 6th

Thursdays noon to 1 on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86761779225>



This isn't your grandma's Bible study! This weekly group will engage with the upcoming Scripture for the week, utilizing the latest biblical studies research, and various lenses for Biblical inquiry (feminist, womanist, queer, ecological, anticapitalist and post-colonial among others). All are welcome to join to consider the text together--what is the historical context of the Biblical text? What does it mean for our lives today? How does the lens of interpretation shift what we get from it? Come explore together and share together.



BIPOC GROUP with Pastor Mario

3rd Sunday of each month 4pm on Zoom (ongoing)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85036603078>

If you self-identify as Black, Indigenous or a Person of Color, you are invited to join the monthly BIPOC small group for fellowship, support and spiritual encouragement.



BRAVE SPACE with Karen Carlos

Mondays 7-8pm on Zoom (ongoing)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84851754597>

All who self-identify as White or Caucasian are welcome. We gather to challenge our participation in a racist society that benefits us. We also challenge ourselves to practice what we have learned out in the community and here at SFBC. The participants bear witness to each other's learning and commitment to do better as a white person.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Three Tuesday evenings at 7pm on Zoom



These book discussions are designed to educate us further about the causes and effects of human-caused climate change and to inspire our participation in the work of Interfaith Climate Action - First Hill and/or other climate justice initiatives. (see separate article for details)



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE with Marsha Ulmer

2nd Sunday of each month 1:30-2:30 on Zoom (ongoing)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87396272439>

This ongoing group is for women who meet together for mutual support. Sessions include socializing, business and spiritual support. The group supports a missionary and local charitable efforts.:

HEALING JOURNEYS with Pastor Mario & Dr. Steve Smith

Eight Sunday mornings in Fridell 9:30am (September 25-November 13)

HEALING JOURNEYS ENCORE - For those who cannot attend in-person, each Sunday's recorded session will be offered via Zoom on the following Thursday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86779019626> starting September 29th.



This fall members of our congregation will share their stories of serious illness or mental health crisis - personally or within their families. How did they make decisions and seek inner peace? Was it an opportunity to go deeper in faith, to become more fully present, and to experience gratitude? Join us on Sunday mornings this Fall for a series moderated by Pastor Mario Morales and Dr. Steve Smith. If you cannot attend on Sunday morning, a recording of that session will be presented on Zoom the following Thursday evening at 7pm.

Weekly Schedule:

09/25 – Pastor Mario and Dr. Steve Smith

10/02 – Virgil and Sara Tollefson

10/09 – Dick Miller

10/16 – Erik & Linda Zaugg and Theresa Pruett

10/23 – John Malcomson

10/30 – Laura Van Tosh

11/06 – Janet Hasselblad

11/13 – Inola de la Cruz and Karen Carlos

INTERFAITH CLIMATE ACTION-FIRST HILL with Keith Ervin

Regular schedule is 4th Sunday of each month at 6:30 on Zoom
HOWEVER, this Fall there will only be meetings on 10/2 and 11/28
Zoom link for 10/2 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85168353493>
Zoom link for 11/28 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81420918394>

For more information, contact Cindy Ervin at cynthervin@msn.com or call the church office (206-325-6051).



Interfaith Climate Action helps members of Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue and Seattle First Baptist Church learn about the causes and effects of human-caused climate change, and works in concert with other groups to maintain a livable climate. It sponsors educational events, supports climate-friendly legislation and policy, and opposes actions that would increase global warming.



LEGACIES with CJ Hendrickson and Theresa Pruett

First organizing meeting: Tuesday September 20th 1-2:30 on Zoom (Regular schedule to be determined at that meeting)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83965596894>



This is a group primarily designed for older adults, though all ages are welcome. We will focus on ways of sharing our personal and communal legacies with one another and with future generations through telling our stories in various ways and using our creativity to imagine other ways to leave our experiences and wisdom – spiritual and otherwise – for the benefit of those who come after us – in our personal lives and at the church.

MEN'S GROUP with Dick Johnson

Saturdays at 10am on Zoom (Ongoing)

Contact Dick Johnson reldejohns@comcast.net or call the church office (206-325-6051) for more information & the zoom link.

This group is for all men who wish to get to know one another better.

PLACE AT THE TABLE DINNERS with Joan Benner

Quarterly: Fall date is September 28th

Must sign up in advance for in-person dinners. See separate article for details.

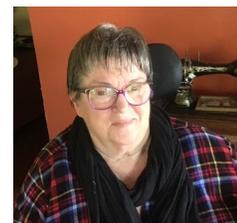
Virtual Place at the Table on Zoom 9/28 6:30 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81473560640>

PLAY READING CIRCLE with Joanne Hjort and Norah

1st Saturday of each month 3-4:30pm on Zoom (Starts October 1st)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85424372570>

Gather once a month to get to know one another, have fun and indulge in the love of theater. Sign up by the 15th of the previous month to obtain a script for the next month's meeting. Do this by emailing jlhjort@gmail.com or calling the church office (206-325-6051).



PRAYER AND REFLECTION with Pastor Anita and Pastor Mario

Tuesdays 12-12:30 on Zoom (Ongoing)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86776242649>

A brief time mid-week to gather for prayer and mutual support.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE AND FAITH with Dr. Jennifer Chin, Beth Reis and Susan Blythe-Goodman

2nd Tuesday of each month Noon-1pm on Zoom
(Starting October 12th)

This is followed by an in-person viewing of a recording of that month's meeting at the church on the Sunday following the 2nd Tuesday at 12:30 in Peacemakers Room (starting October 16th)

<https://washington.zoom.us/j/98270878634>



We will hear the stories of people who have given birth, people who have chosen to parent and others who have chosen an adoption plan, people who have had abortions, people who could and who could not access contraception. We will hear from a variety of religious leaders about their faiths' perspectives on reproductive justice. These sessions will give priority to guests with QTBIPOC experience. We will examine the local efforts to increase reproductive access locally and for reproductive refugees and efforts to take care of those receiving reproductive healthcare. We will explore avenues for personal and collective involvement.



ROAMIN' CATHOLICS with Joan Benner

The group will meet twice a month with the regular schedule to be determined by participants

First meeting: Thursday, September 22nd at 7pm on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81154876899>

This group is designed to be an opportunity for those of us were raised Roman Catholic to share our experiences in a confidential setting. What served us and what didn't? What are our thoughts and feelings today because of this experience?



WOMEN'S CONVERSATIONS with Susan Dohrmann and Kelsey Waldon

2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month 11:30-12:30 on Zoom
(Starts September 24th)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89163623743>



An opportunity for women of all ages to have safe, confidential conversations across generations. A place to make connections with other women and to listen to many different experiences and viewpoints.

SAVE THE DATE!

WOMEN OF ALL AGES

Women's Retreat
Friday, October 21 – Sunday, October 23
Rainbow Lodge
More information coming soon

SENIORS AND ALMOST-SENIORS

An Introduction to Advance Planning
and End of Life Options
Sunday, November 20 2 pm on Zoom
Presented by End of Life Washington
More information coming soon

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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 David Young

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

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facebook.com/SeattleFirstBaptist/

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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

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The Spire is published monthly by Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Ave, Seattle, WA 98122

Email Delivery: To subscribe for email delivery or our weekly newsletter, register online at www.seattlefirstbaptist.org

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Rev. Dr. Patricia L. Hunter has served SFBC for the last seven years in multiple capacities. First, she served as an interim member of the pastoral team in 2015-2016. Then, she served as the Theologian in Residence, a position started by Bill Malcolmson. In 2019, she agreed to serve as our Pastor of Education and Outreach. Dr. Hunter's gifts are many—prophetic preaching, wise counsel, courageous and loving pastoral care. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Hunter led the church in establishing the Tuesday Prayer Group on Zoom, a fellowship that is flourishing to this day.

Dr. Hunter retired from the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) of the American Baptist Churches USA in 2020. Following her Master of Divinity from Colgate Rochester

Crozer Divinity School, she received her Doctor of Ministry degree from Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri, with a specialization in Womanist Theology and Evangelism. Dr. Hunter also serves on the ministry team at Mount Zion Baptist Church.

Dr. Hunter, we wish you all the best as you follow God's call to ministry in new ways and new places. Seattle First Baptist Church is endlessly grateful for your ministry among us. Thank you.