# November Monthly Packet

## Conference Calendar

If you’d like your committee meeting or event added to the calendar, please send an email to pnucc@gmail.com.


### November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>One MORE Great Hour of Sharing special offering</td>
<td>1:30-2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Our Faith Our Vote online; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1493075942">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1493075942</a></td>
<td>1:30-2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Election Day – Please VOTE!</td>
<td>9:30-10:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Courtney's Office Hour; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1490066906">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1490066906</a></td>
<td>9:30-10:30am</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Pastoral Care Check-in online; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480946522">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480946522</a></td>
<td>1:30-2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Courtney's Office Hour online; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482248287">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482248287</a></td>
<td>2:00-3:00pm</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Moderators Check-in online; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481017260">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481017260</a></td>
<td>7:00-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Admin and Financial Check-in; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1497218618">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1497218618</a></td>
<td>1:00-2:00pm</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Fun Friday Pastors Hour; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1484579147">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1484579147</a></td>
<td>4:00-5:00pm</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ordination of Sophie Morse</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Worship Resources Check-in; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480494548">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480494548</a></td>
<td>1:30-2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Church Development Committee meeting; online</td>
<td>2:00-3:00pm</td>
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<td>Courtney's Office Hour online; <a href="https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482248287">https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482248287</a></td>
<td>2:00-3:00pm</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Stewardship Leadership Team meeting; online 11:00am start</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Westside Committee on Ministry meeting; online</td>
<td>9:30-10:30am</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Global Ministries Committee Meeting</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Environmental Justice meeting; online</td>
<td>4:30-5:30pm</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Board of Directors meeting; online</td>
<td>6:00-7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Eastside Committee on Ministry; online</td>
<td>10:00am-2:00pm</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Finance Subcommittee; online</td>
<td>9:00-10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Stewardship Committee meeting; online</td>
<td>10:00-11:30am</td>
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25  Worship Resources Check-in; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480494548; 1:30-2:30pm
26  Thanksgiving – Conference office closed today and tomorrow
27  Fun Friday Pastors Hour; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1484579147; 4:00-5:00pm
29  One MORE Great Hour of Sharing special offering
30  Our Faith Our Vote online; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1493075942; 1:30-2:30pm

December
1    Giving Tuesday / Friends of the Conference
2    Courtney's Office Hour; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1490066906; 9:30-10:30am
2    Pastoral Care Check-in online; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1480946522; 1:30-2:30pm
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4    Admin and Financial Check-in; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1497218618; 1:00-2:00pm
4    Fun Friday Pastors Hour; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1484579147; 4:00-5:00pm
7    Tentative: Our Faith Our Vote; https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1493075942; 1:30-2:30pm
Election Day Vigil

Dear PNC-UCC folks,

This is an INVITATION to join together for a virtual Election Day Vigil. We will gather every 4 hours for a 15 minute time of prayer, blessing and discussion. Please invite your congregations and friends to be with us, providing them the information below. It is important to walk together and support each other, asking God to be with us in this critical election process.

Two very important issues to be aware of before joining the vigil:
1. You must download the conference provider RING CENTRAL application prior to logging in to the vigil. It is easy and much like Zoom.
2. Each time slot has a different meeting number

**VIGIL HOST and LOG IN INFORMATION**

**4:00 AM  Host Mike Denton**
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:  
[https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1498366057](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1498366057)  
For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.  
Meeting ID: 149 836 6057

**8:00 AM  Host Courtney Stange-Tregear**
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:  
[https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1489705822](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1489705822)  
For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.  
Meeting ID: 148 970 5822

**12 noon  Host Terry Teigen**
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:  
[https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481001080](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1481001080)  
For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.  
Meeting ID: 148 100 1080

**4:00 PM  Host Genavieve Heywood**
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:  
[https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482669939](https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482669939)  
For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.  
Meeting ID: 148 266 9939

*(more on next page)*
8:00 PM  Host Andrew Conley-Holcom
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:
https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1482235025
For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.
Meeting ID: 148 223 5025

12 Midnight  Host Jim Spraker
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:
https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1492212843
For the best audio experience, please use computer audio.
Meeting ID: 149 221 2843

Looking forward to our being together,

Jim Spraker
You are invited!

Suquamish Community Congregational UCC

And

the Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC

Cordially Welcome You To

A Holy (Virtual!) Celebration of Ordination

For Sophie Morse, M. Div.

Sunday, November 8th, 2020 3pm Pacific
(6pm Eastern)

This Service will be broadcast by Zoom. All are welcome! To attend online, please register using this link. You will receive a link for joining the service on Sunday, November 8th.

If you cannot click on the above link, please email Sophie at sfmor1@gmail.com to receive the registration link directly.

Sophie Morse will be ordained on November 8, 2020 at an online service beginning at 3:00pm (6:00pm EST). She will be ordained into the specialized ministry of conflict consultation with churches. To attend, please register in advance.
Sophie Morse, M.S., M.Div. grew up in the UCC in New England and migrated out to the Pacific Northwest in 2004 after a 20-year career as a professional mariner and in outdoor education. She has been a member of Suquamish Church UCC since 2007.

Sophie has a passion for conflict. For the past ten years she has worked as a trainer and mentor mediator for the Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) of Kitsap County. She specializes in teaching conflict skills and mentoring/coaching others navigating conflict. A lifelong activist, Sophie also spends considerable time advocating in her local community for equity in policy and practice. In her spare time Sophie can be found traveling to visit her family in New England, participating in her local church, playing guitar, and spending time in the great outdoors.

Sophie holds a Master’s in Divinity from Seattle University and after a number of years in discernment, she is looking forward to being ordained with the UCC into the specialized ministry of conflict consulting with churches!
**Staff Column**

Courtney Stange-Tregear

**Deepening Relationships**

“One of my new favorite things to do in class is Show and Tell. A “project” that we all look forward to in kindergarten. A place to share a joy in our life, to share laughter and smiles. That is why I thought during these times we could all use more laughter and joy in our lives. So I thought let’s do a Show and Tell icebreaker at the board meeting. An activity where we all could share one object, activity, or thought that brings us joy and happiness; or just something we are passionate about. Bringing a time of joy and laughter into our meeting made us all more connected than ever. Smiles and laughter are one of the most powerful things we can share right now. Bringing that into a meeting or class can turn one life or thought into a positive.”

- Zoe Pfeifer, PNC Board of Directors

By now, you have probably heard that the Pacific Northwest Conference has been prioritizing the deepening of relationship for years. What do we mean by relationship? What does it look like to deepen? How does one prioritize this?

Relationship is one of those things that can seem tricky to define, and yet we tend to know when it is there; if don’t yet know which relationships we can count on, we tend to learn quickly in times of trial. Sometimes relationship persists despite difficulties, other times relationship takes real effort and intentionality.

In the midst of all that is challenging and scary right now, Zoe brought this moment of joy into the October Board of Directors meeting. The exercise was a great success. Members shared items from their lives; there was openness and laughter. As we have many, many times over the last several years, we chose to connect with one another, and we chose to prioritize our connecting.

It is true that prioritizing deepening relationship takes time; it is slow work. It can seem on the one hand vague or unclear, and on the other, something that requires great intentionality. One might think, I don’t have time for show and tell; I don’t have time for deepening relationship, I have too much work to do! But as we are seeing, more and more over the course of this year, there is a kind of paradox to relational work. Yes it takes time, but it saves time also.

Prioritizing relationship soothes conflict. It creates trust and shared connection. Collegial relationships sustain leaders with resources, passion, laughter and support. Congregational relationships strengthen the covenant of who we are together. Community Relationships inform the ministry we are called to address. Deepening relationship creates the necessary foundation for deeper, systemic change. We cannot work to undo systemic racism without relationship. We cannot smash the patriarchy on our own. It might seem like we don’t have time for relationship in the midst of this difficult time, but actually, we don’t have time to NOT prioritize relationship.

As we know from Psalm 139, God loves us enough to know us. To know us intimately and completely. Perhaps the most important thing we can do in this challenging time, is continue to work on our knowing one another, showing and telling, and deepening our relationships.
In the tradition of prophets who spoke and acted with the power of their faith during critical times, this webinar focuses on what faith communities can do to compel congress to pass the climate legislation that our world needs so much right now. In congressional districts across the country, faith-rooted advocates have enormous potential to be the moral and spiritual force needed in this moment. The featured panelists for this webinar include Rabbi Daniel Swartz from the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, Shantha Ready Alonso from Creation Justice Ministries, and Todd Fernandez from Climate Crisis Policy.

Even if you can't make the webinar’s scheduled time on Wednesday, November 18th at 1 pm ET, still sign-up, and we will send you a recording of it. Sign up now to join the webinar!


“Give Thanks For _______”

Every Thanksgiving, after watching the National Dog Show, my family sits down to a pretty traditional turkey dinner. Before eating we each take a turn saying something we are thankful for. This is a pretty normal “Thanksgiving Day” ritual, but in my family, we frequently engage in this thankfulness practice throughout the year. I tell my kids that gratitude is like a muscle; it must be used, exercised, for it to work well. When we don’t practice our gratitude it is very easy to lose sight of all there is to be grateful for; too easy to become overly discouraged by what one does not have. At least, for me it is.

This year, when there has been so much loss, so much disappointment, so much grief, and so much turmoil, this practice has certainly been tested.

In the Pacific Northwest Conference, well before the first case of Covid, we have been prioritizing relationship. For years now, we have been learning how to listen, how to share, how to be vulnerable and authentic, how to weave ourselves more tightly together. We have done these things because relationship is at the core of who we are as a conference. We have done these things *so that* we have a greater capacity for doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God. In the time of Covid, we have seen pretty much everything tested. But we have also seen our relationships, and our gratitude, continue to strengthen.
This month we will lean even more into relationship and gratitude, as we seek to increase support of the PNC with a year-end appeal for Friends of the Conference. Each year, more of us discover that an individual gift to the Pacific Northwest Conference reflects the gratitude we feel for a Conference that is vital, camps that change lives, and leaders who impact our congregations in so many positive ways. These gifts have helped close the deficit in our annual budget and enabled us to increase programs and Conference vitality.

This year our theme is “Give Thanks For ______” and we are inviting everyone to reflect on what they give thanks for in this time. Also, this year we are participating in the world-wide generosity movement called Giving Tuesday. This is an opportunity for us, and our gratitude, to be in connection with the gratitude and generosity of so many, across the globe.

Giving Tuesday is always the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Between now and then, I ask you to consider a few things...

First, and most importantly, what do you give thanks for? Please consider sharing your gratitude with others.

Second, if you don’t already, please follow the Pacific Northwest Conference on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pncucc. Giving Tuesday is primarily a social media movement, and if you’re on Facebook we want to participate with you. But don’t worry, that is not the only way to participate and we are committed to sharing through other means as well.

Third, consider if you are feeling called to give a financial gift in response to your gratitude. More information will be coming out, throughout the weeks of November, leading up to Giving Tuesday on December 1. (Spoiler alert, Giving Tuesday donors with also receive gifts as a part of this alternative giving model. Keep an eye out for more information - coming soon!)

Finally, know this — I give thanks for you. For each one of you. I am so grateful to be here, in the Pacific Northwest Conference, with you all.

Blessings,

Courtney

PS. If you love the idea of Giving Tuesday, or are simply looking for more ways to express your gratitude, we are still receiving sponsors for this campaign. Be in touch with me (courtney@pncucc.org), or Ron Patterson (roncharnley@gmail.com), for more information on becoming a sponsor.
The Fall Edition of the UC News is now available online at https://www.pncuccnews.org.