Confession: I love vacuuming. I did more Consumer Reports research on vacuum cleaners than I think I did on child car seats. We have two vacuums: one that’s ideal for carpets, one that’s ideal for hardwoods and tile. We have two because you can’t find one vacuum that’s awesome for both jobs, and I have to have awesome. Our vacuums aren’t top-of-the-line, but in my opinion, they’re the hidden gems of the vacuum world.

There’s something so satisfying about running my powerful carpet vacuum over the rug and watching the transparent cylinder fill with dirt and fur. Gross, but satisfying. And going over the laminate flooring with my Electrolux, I love watching all the dirt that’s migrated to corners and hugging furniture legs disappear. In some ways, I appreciate my dog shedding her black fur everywhere because it makes my vacuuming that much more satisfying (I know; I’m odd).

Next to praying and being out in nature, cleaning (and vacuuming, in particular) is the next best practice in bringing me peace. When I’m facing difficult issues, I vacuum. When my to-do list has no end in sight and I feel pulled in multiple directions, I blaze a clean path around the house. When I need to make order out of chaos, I vacuum in very straight lines, backing out of a room so you can see the pattern on the floor. In general, the messier my life or the world feels, the cleaner my home.

If only the world’s problems could be so easily sucked up, leaving nice, clean paths where fur balls previously ruled. But it’s never easy making order out of true chaos. Even God had to do it, step-by-step, day-by-day in the creation stories of Genesis.

And yet, difficult as it is, God invites humans to be co-creators in the chaos. Genesis tells the story of creation as one begun in seven days, but truly the story of forming the world into the portrait of beauty God imagined (and for which Jesus strived) is an ongoing story — a story in which we play an integral role.

Sometimes, the weight of that realization is too much to bear — at least, it is for me. At those times, I pull out my vacuum, invite the peaceful whir to begin and remind myself that order out of chaos happens one intentional push or pull at a time, one step at a time, one day at a time. With God, order happens.

This year’s presidential election cycle has brought feelings and realization that our country exists in a bit greater state of chaos than many of us imagined. It’s been unsettling and upsetting, and fear has brought out responses that aren’t always helpful in our ongoing co-creation of God’s world.

I can’t invite you to vacuum alongside me, but I can invite you to pray with me. There is peace in private practices like vacuuming or fishing, walking or reading, but there is something both peaceful and powerful about coming into the shared space of our sanctuary to together, lift prayers to God. That’s why, on the eve of the presidential election, we’ll gather for a reflective prayer service at church.

Order created from chaos starts with simple intention and desire shared with God and one another. I hope you can join us on Monday night, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. as we seek peace in the framework of faith.

Christ’s peace, Leah
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday – October 23</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study – Room 416&lt;br&gt;10:00 Worship – Children’s Sabbath, LPS Recognition&lt;br&gt;11:00 Eco-Friendly Coffee Sold&lt;br&gt;Wreath Orders Begin&lt;br&gt;11:30 Worship Ministry – Fish Bowl&lt;br&gt;2-5:00 Fauntleroy Fall Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday – October 24</strong></td>
<td>8:30 Altar Guild&lt;br&gt;6:30 Sisters – Gedney home</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday – October 25</strong></td>
<td>10:00 Caring Ministry – Library&lt;br&gt;6:00 Adult Ed Class – Fell. Hall&lt;br&gt;7:00 Council - BRR</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday – October 26</strong></td>
<td>9:45 Staff – F. Bowl&lt;br&gt;9-4:00 Women’s Retreat – The Hall&lt;br&gt;9:30 Worship&lt;br&gt;7:30 Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday – October 27</strong></td>
<td>No LPS Classes&lt;br&gt;10:00 Sisters – Eaton Home&lt;br&gt;6:30 Bells&lt;br&gt;7:30 Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday – October 28</strong></td>
<td>5-9:00 Women’s Retreat Eve Potluck Fellowship Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday – October 29</strong></td>
<td>9-4:00 Women’s Retreat – The Hall&lt;br&gt;@ Fauntleroy&lt;br&gt;5:00 Youth Bake-Off - Kitchen&lt;br&gt;7:30 Staff – Fish Bowl&lt;br&gt;8:30 Parish Life Min. - Library&lt;br&gt;9:00 Adult Bible Study – Room 416&lt;br&gt;10:00 Worship&lt;br&gt;11:15 Green Committee – Fish Bowl&lt;br&gt;11:30 Worship Ministry – Fish Bowl&lt;br&gt;2-5:00 Fauntleroy Fall Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday – October 30</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Adult Bible Study – Room 416&lt;br&gt;10:00 Worship&lt;br&gt;11:15 Green Committee – Fish Bowl&lt;br&gt;11:30 Worship Ministry – Fish Bowl&lt;br&gt;2-5:00 Fauntleroy Fall Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday – October 31</strong></td>
<td>Happy Halloween!&lt;br&gt;Congregator Mailed Out&lt;br&gt;8:30 Altar Guild&lt;br&gt;9:00 Fix-It Group&lt;br&gt;6:30 Adult Ed Class – Fell. Hall&lt;br&gt;6:30 Executive Com. - Library&lt;br&gt;6:30 Bell Practice&lt;br&gt;6:30 Executive Com. - Library&lt;br&gt;7:30 Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday – November 1</strong></td>
<td>9:00 Fix-It Group&lt;br&gt;6:30 Adult Ed Class – Fell. Hall</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday – November 2</strong></td>
<td>9:45 Staff – Fish Bowl&lt;br&gt;5:30 Parish Life Min. - Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday – November 3</strong></td>
<td>6:30 Bell Practice&lt;br&gt;6:30 Executive Com. - Library&lt;br&gt;7:30 Choir</td>
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**As an open and affirming congregation, the members and staff of Fauntleroy Church are committed to fostering community among people of all races, cultures and sexual orientations.**

**CAKE DECORATING AND CAKE WALK – IT’S SO FUN!**

The Fauntleroy Fall Festival will be held this year on Sunday, Oct. 23, and we will again have the Cake Decorating Contest and Cake Walk. In order to make this event a success, we are calling on bakers to provide the cakes... and we need lots of them! We have three categories for the Cake Decorating Contest: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced.

Cakes should be brought to the Vashon Room on the 23rd, between 12 and 1 PM. Voting will take place from 1:30 to 3 PM. Votes will be tallied, prizes awarded and the Cake Walk will begin! It will continue until all the cakes are gone.

Cakes for the contest can be any shape or size and should have a fall, Halloween or West Seattle theme. They can be very simple or very elaborate and would be a great parent/child, family, or group project. If you don’t want to enter the Cake Decorating Contest, you can still bake and donate a cake for the Cake Walk.

Questions?? Contact Carolyn Tucker.

**FOR OUR WOMEN**

**CALLING ALL WESTSIDE UCC WOMEN!**

You are invited to retreat together on Sat., Oct. 29, for a one-day Women’s Retreat at the Hall at Fauntleroy.

The retreat theme, *Worship Full...Love All*, relates to the work of the Advent Conspiracy. Rev. Leah Bilinski and CE Director, Karyn Frazier, will be leading us as we think about how we might better reflect, honor and live out God’s incarnation in our families, community and world.

An optional potluck dinner on Fri., Oct. 28, at Fauntleroy Church is a fun way to get to know each other better. More details are available on the registration materials.

Cost is $30 (some scholarships available) and **registrations are due by Oct. 23**. You can register online at [http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/3037688/2016-Women-s-Retreat](http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/3037688/2016-Women-s-Retreat) and paper forms are available in your church office. Checks must be sent to Fauntleroy Church by Oct. 23.

Contact Kristen Almgren at [youth@fauntleroyucc.org](mailto:youth@fauntleroyucc.org), if you have questions.

**SOAR YOUTH GROUP**

**BAKE SALE ITEMS NEEDED!**

Speaking of the Fall Festival...we need your help! Fall Festival bake sale items needed! On **Oct 22nd from 5-9PM our SOAR Youth Group will be preparing for their biggest fundraiser of the year: the Fall Festival Bake Sale. Proceeds go to fund SOAR mission projects, fellowship events and activities. Can you help by donating brownies, cookies, and other delicious baked goods?**

The youth will meet Kristen in the church kitchen at 5:00 to bake, taste, test, and wrap their wares, but every year they sell out of every crumb before the Fall Festival is over. The youth will be glad to decorate donated cupcakes and to wrap items, and will really appreciate your support.

Then, the youth sell their goodies on Oct. 23. Be sure to stop by their table as you enjoy all of the other wonderful activities at this remarkable community-wide event.

Thanks, in advance, for your help! Contact Kristen Almgren at [youth@fauntleroyucc.org](mailto:youth@fauntleroyucc.org), if you have questions.

**NW REGIONAL WOMEN’S RETREAT XI – NOV. 4-6**

Every three years this retreat is offered to women from the Central Pacific and Pacific NW UCC Conferences at Kah-Nee-Tah resort in Warm Springs, OR. The theme is “Let Your Spirit Bloom” and the keynote speaker is Jane Kirkpatrick. For more information, go to [www.nrwr.us](http://www.nrwr.us).
THE GREEN COMMITTEE

We are always proud of our Fauntleroy team after each Recycle Roundup. This spring, we had another very successful collection of 9.5 tons of recycled materials that will not go into landfill, and collected about $1,200 in donations from 400+ vehicles passing through our parking lot.

All the cheerful, faithful volunteers who help each six months are treasures. This is a tremendous service to our community and environment as well as being a terrific PR event for our church. Thanks mightily to the efforts and artistry of Judy Pickens and her publicity talents.

The Green Committee offers an informative handout at each Recycle Roundup to acquaint “customers” with ideas they may find helpful and might not get through public media. If you didn’t recycle anything during our fall roundup, pick up a copy of “Green Ideas” from the publication rack outside the sanctuary door.

We would love to have you visit our next meeting, lend your thoughts and creativity, and join our movement toward more environmental responsibility for our congregation, our community, and our earth. We have exciting opportunities coming up this year and next for activities with the Sunday school kids, a “Green Fair” that we’ll host in February, participation with Earth Ministry and the Alternative Giving Fair this holiday season. Come after worship on Oct. 23, 2-5 pm. We formally meet every third Sunday...come and join in.

Thanks! Chris Mahar, Chair

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A strong church creates a positive culture of support for people in key roles to allow them to be successful. The pastor supports the church staff but who supports the pastor? Here at Fauntleroy UCC, we have that role assigned to the Pastoral Relations Committee per our Church’s bylaws. The committee will work with Pastor Leah to be a sounding board for her ideas, expectations and concerns as well as be an ear to the congregation for constructive feedback, hopes, dreams and reluctances.

Our committee is chaired by Steve Sundquist. Other members of our committee are Hilary Reeves, Maria Groen, Gordy Mandt, and Betty Olson. We formally meet every two months or as needed.

COME TO FALL FESTIVAL FOR MUSIC (AND A WHOLE LOT MORE)

The Fauntleroy triangle (church/Y/schoolhouse) will be a toe-tapping place during the annual Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2-5 pm. Planners have carved out three venues for music lovers.

Performance space under the big tent in the church parking lot will feature the Back Porch Apostles Band, which promises joyful, fun music with a creative twist. The B Sharp Student Rock ‘n’ Roll Band will also perform in front of the straw bales there, choosing pieces from an equally lively repertoire.

Big-band and jazz music will prevail in and behind the schoolhouse. The West Seattle Big Band and the Don’t Ask Band will take turns in the Emerald Room and the Hilltop Jazz Project and Jump Jazz Trio will play on the outdoor stage behind the building.

Venture inside the church and you’ll be treated to a concert by the Endolyne Children’s Choir in the sanctuary and brass ensembles from the West Seattle Community Orchestra in Fellowship Hall. And if you’ve ever thought of taking up an instrument, try on a couple at the orchestra’s “petting zoo” in the narthex.

Because this all-ages festival is such a busy place, plan to pick up a guide or follow the signage to know what is happening when and where.

Festival volunteers enjoy a special perspective by helping with pony rides, guiding children to success building a birdhouse, or doing any other of the many tasks that make this free community event hum. The church office will be accepting offers to help through Friday.

Judy Pickens

SEASONAL ACTIVITIES

HOLIDAY WREATHS

The Holidays are coming…..Wreaths will be sold on Sundays thru Nov. 13th – cost $25. The 24” wreaths are made of beautiful evergreens and cones plus a bow....great for decorating your own home and/or to give as a gift. Shipping boxes are available at $4 each. Wreaths must be picked up on Sun., Nov. 20 between 9:30 – 11:30 AM.

Make checks payable to Fauntleroy Church UCC. Payment must be made when ordering. Questions, call Pat Gedney – 206.241.2966 or during the week, you may call the Church office.

IT’S COMING…

This year, Fauntleroy Church will be engaging in an “Advent Conspiracy” to celebrate Christmas a little less like society and a little more like God.

Can Christmas still change the world? Conspire with us and find out! Scan the barcode below to watch a promotional video.
Sunday Worship & Church School: 10 AM  
Office Hours: 8:30-3:30 PM Mon.-Thurs. 8:30-2:30 Fri.  
Senior Minister  Rev. Leah Bilinski  
Music Director Bronwyn Edwards  
Christian Ed Director Karyn Frazier  
Little Pilgrim School Director Lorrie Cook  
Wedding Coordinator Rosina Geary  
Volunteer & Engagement Coor. Sarah Ackers  
Youth Leader Kristen Almgren  
Nursery Supervisor Carol Smith  
Custodian Erin Vogelpohl  
Financial Assistant Bonnie Beerman  
Financial Assistant Pat Gedney  
Office Manager Jackie Gould  

CONGREGATOR DEADLINE: TUESDAYS, 1 PM  

PEOPLE NEWS  
Our sympathies to Judy Pickens & Phil Sweetland at the recent loss of Judy's Dad, Don Pickens. Phil & Judy were able to go to Kansas for his memorial service last week.  
Dorothy Talbert fell recently and cracked two ribs and pulled various muscles. As this is being written, she is in Swedish Hospital, but hopes to be home very soon!  

ROUNDUP NETS RECYCLABLES, ADDS TO CHURCH TREASURY  
Just over 400 vehicles came through our parking lot on Sunday, Sept. 25, for our Green Committee’s fall Recycle Roundup. By the end of the day, the crew from 1 Green Planet had 9.5 tons to recycle. Donations from thankful "customers" added just over $1,153 to our treasury.  

CROP WALK A SUCCESS  
Thanks to the 62 folks who participated in the walk this year. So far, we have raised $5,655 to help provide food and clean water to those in need, both locally and internationally. Special thanks to Carolyn Tucker who prepared a delicious lunch to fuel the walkers.  

CONGREGATOR DUE AND PUBLISH DATES  
Due to the holidays, the schedule isn’t always every two weeks, so I’m hoping this will help those contributing to be “on time” and get their articles in as needed.  

To Office  Date Published  
10/25  10/31  
11/8  11/14  
11/22  11/28  
12/6  12/12  
12/20  12/28  
1/3/17  1/9  
1/17  1/23  

THRIFTWAY 1% PROGRAM  
We recently received a check in the amount of $114, representing 1% of total receipts received from folks participating in this program. You too can participate. Save your receipts from the California Ave & Morgan St Thriftway (only) and put them in the Donation Station at church, located just inside the main doors to the building. Bonnie Beerman collects and adds up these receipts, then gives Thriftway the total amount. They, in turn, send us a check, which goes to support the West Seattle and White Center Food Banks. Thanks to you all for supporting this program and to Bonnie for making it happen.  

GROUND WORK PARTY - NOVEMBER 5TH - 9-12  
Let's get the grounds ready for the holidays. We will spiff up the grounds and parking lots by sweeping, trimming, cleaning out the catch basins and anything else that catches our fancy.  
Phil Sweetland  

THE CHRISTMAS PEOPLE FOUNDATION  
Dinner and Entertainment, Sunday, Dec. 25, Noon to 6 PM, Alki Masonic Center, 4735 40th Ave SW.  
This event is for elders, homeless and those who would otherwise be alone at Christmas. Provided at no cost as a community service.  
Call 206-719-4979 or go to pialley@jps.net, for more information. Co-founders are Dr. Ruth Bishop and Rev. Fred Hutchinson.