



Northwest Reminder

VOLUME I, ISSUE VII

A Monthly Publication
AUGUST 2020



**A Newsletter serving the congregation
and friends of
Northwest United Protestant Church**
*LOVING AND SERVING CHRIST
IN OUR COMMUNITY AND WORLD*





A “Gentle” Reminder

Dear NWUP members and friends;

Last week we wrapped up our sermon series on the letter of James, “Faithful Living”. I enjoyed the deep dive into this letter. I hope you did too. Our final words from James were about prayer. Although James doesn’t quote Paul, I sensed that underneath his words on prayer, he was also reminding us of Paul’s words, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

What does it mean to pray without ceasing? For me, it’s like listening to the radio, tuning in to a favorite broadcast or music station, and then forgetting it’s on and going on to do other things while the sound of the music or words are ever present in the background. Praying without ceasing is a bit like that. It’s tuning in to God’s channel and being constantly aware that God is there as you go about your day. It sounds very simplistic when I go back and reread that, but there is a bit of truth to it. God is ever present. Our prayers can be a constant conversation with God, sometimes more focused than other times, but always seeking out God, giving thanks, rejoicing, sharing our hopes and fears, our concerns with God.

Prayer is more than a onetime check in at a certain time. You can pray anytime and should. As James reminds us, if you are sick, pray. If you are happy, pray. So, my friends, let us all pray. Let us pray that the researchers will soon find a vaccine for the virus. Let us pray that our nation may find peace, that the oppressed may find freedom, that the poor may find resources. Yes, let us pray. But let us not forget that along with prayer is action. Our prayers should help us move to action. So, as we pray for peace, let us work for peace. As we pray for the oppressed, let us be allies and walk with them and help dismantle the systems that continue to oppress. As we pray for the poor, let us be generous with our resources.

Today’s poem is a modern sonnet written by British poet, Dame Carol Ann Duffy in 1992. In this short poem, the poet reminds us that simple sounds, like piano scales, and words, like the recitation of shipping lines on the BBC radio, become a form of prayer.

I hope to see you soon at our drive-in worship service. Until then, be safe and stay well.

Blessings,

Pastor Miriam

Here is a poem, ...

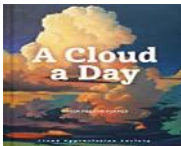
Prayer

Some days, although we cannot pray, a prayer
utters itself. So, a woman will lift
her head from the sieve of her hands and stare
at the minims sung by a tree, a sudden gift.

Some nights, although we are faithless, the truth
enters our hearts, that small familiar pain;
then a man will stand stock-still, hearing his youth
in the distant Latin chanting of a train.

Pray for us now. Grade 1 piano scales
console the lodger looking out across
a Midlands town. Then dusk, and someone calls
a child's name as though they named their loss.

Darkness outside. Inside, the radio's prayer -
Rockall. Malin. Dogger. Finisterre.



New Book in the Library
by Gavin Pretor-Pinney
Reviewed by
Mel Adams Church Librarian

I have always found God to be in the creation—in nature. How else to explain the millions of kinds of plants and animals not to mention the geologic formations, weather phenomena, astronomical objects. Many of these creations are beautiful but also at times terrifying.

This book features beautiful photographs and artwork and a brief description of a cloud or atmospheric phenomenon each day for 365 days. There are clouds I never knew about despite the meteorology classes I took in college.

I think it is important for Christians to have a nodding familiarity with the array of God's creations. This book provides an easy way to become familiar with clouds and other atmospheric phenomena. Clouds and weather are also found in a number of Bible verses.

WELL WHAT DO YOU KNOW, CHAPLAINCY?

Another Monday has snuck up on us. Our reflection this morning comes to us from someone who spends half her time in jail, **Chaplain Jennifer Jacobsen**. Full disclosure: she spends the other half her time at Kadlec. She reports people in both places express feeling “locked up.” Here’s some refreshing thoughts from her.

PICK YOUR BATTLES.

NOPE. THAT’S TOO MANY BATTLES.

PUT SOME BATTLES BACK.

I saw this meme on Facebook the other day and saved it to my phone. While chuckling, I also feel these words like a gentle hand on my heart. Like my own mother used to say when I was a little girl in a toy store, I hear God in a soothing, yet no-nonsense, momma-voice. “Nope, Jenn, put it back. That one is not yours, honey. Let the day’s own trouble be sufficient for the day.”

Mother God wraps comforting, consoling arms of her Holy Spirit around me and lets her peace flow like cool water over my over-heated, weary heart. I take a deep cleansing breath, allowing the Ruach, the Breath of the Holy One, fill my lungs and soul again. I feel my blood carrying life-giving oxygen to every part of my mind and body. As I exhale, the cares and fears that weigh down on my hope are released with the out-breath and entrusted into God’s loving care.

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

Praying for your peace this day,
THE CHAPLAIN TEAM

Keep up the good!

NWUP Food

Bank

Donations

Boxes

or
Cans

(no
glass)



WOW!
So far NWUP
has donated
447 pounds
and **\$460**

DRIVE IN'S



I remember going to drive-in movies with my family in the 1950's. My brother and sister and I looked forward to having time together with our parents when we could just enjoy ourselves. It really didn't matter what the movie was. We lived back east so there were always bugs flying around.

But "fortunately" my mother smoked cigarettes, so the bugs stayed away from our car. My father would have us all pile into the old station wagon (no seat belts of course). We would bring our own snacks to eat, but my father would give each of us a quarter to spend during intermission at the food stand. When we first arrived we would have to find a speaker that worked, so we tried to get there early to get a good spot to see the screen and actually hear the movie. Sometimes the movies were so bad that my parents made fun of the movie and made up dialogue. These were great times as a family.

And now after several decades, NWUP has its own drive-in. We are back together, worshipping as our community of faith. We are excited to see each other. We are excited to get out of our homes. We are excited to worship together. People at home can watch the service on their screens. Worship is meant to be communal. Let us all enjoy our time together whether at our own drive-in or at home.

Rick Donahoe

NEWS FROM THE PEWS:



Congratulations to
Pat C.
who has sold
her house
after 44 years!

WITNESS OF THE SAINTS

Sunday, July 05:

Online Worship: 201
Nursery: 0

In Finance:

Sound System	\$1825.00
Food Bank	\$50.00
Loose Offering	\$30.00
General Fund	\$4450.00
Total	\$6355.00

Sunday, July 12:

Online Worship: 102
Nursery: 0

In Finance:

General Fund	\$1625.00
Loose Offering	\$127.00
Kadlec Snacks	\$10.00
Sound System	\$170.00
Early Learning Co-Op	\$30.00
Total	\$1962.00

Sunday, July 19:

Online Worship: 102
Nursery: 0

In Finance:

Loose Offering	\$50.00
General Fund	\$855.00
Total	\$905.00

Sunday, July 26:

Online Worship: 128
Nursery: 0

In Finance:

General Fund	\$1410.00
Loose Offering	\$10.00
Sound System	\$100.00
Total	\$1520.00

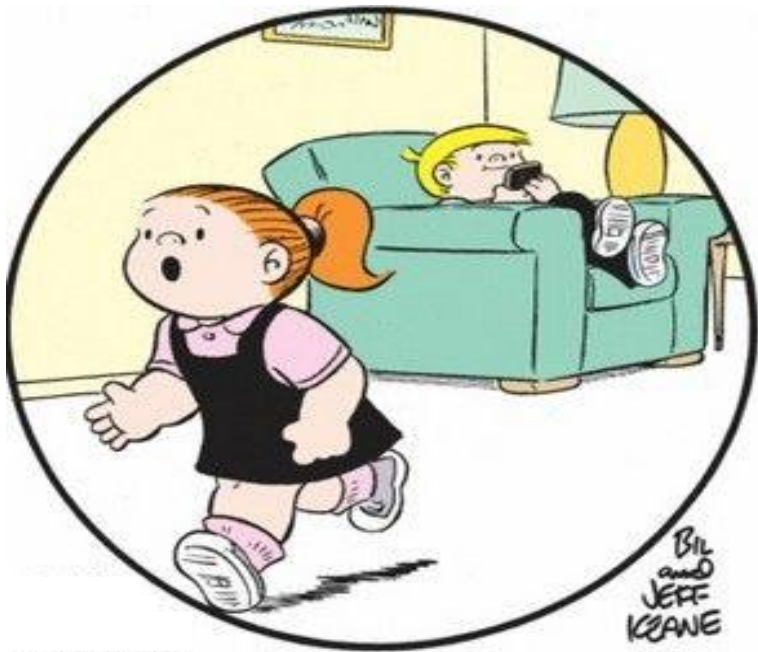
8/3	Jeanne B.
8/4	Erica N.
8/6	Jim & Jeanne Berkey
8/7	Brad B. Ken & Regina Cirolini
8/8	Connie & Donna Eckard
8/10	Kristy L.
8/11	Court R. Rick & Deb. Donahoe
8/12	Ralph P. Susie K. Matt & Alaina Kincaid
8/14	Sacha O.
8/15	Ralph & Bea Pohto grandson
8/16	Sue J. Dustin & Carrie Ayres
8/18	Margaret M.
8/22	Kay D.
8/23	Pat C.
8/26	Bryson S.

AUGUST 2020 (ALL CHURCH SERVICES & ACTIVITIES CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						01
02	JEANNE B.	ERICA N.	05	JIM & JEANNE BERKEY	BRAD B. KEN & REGINA CIROLINI	07 08 CONNIE & DONNA ECKARD
09	KRISTY L.	COURT R. RICK & DEB. DONAHOE	11 12 RALPH P. SUSIE K. MATT & ALAINA KINCAID	13	SACHA O.	14 15 RALPH & BEA POHTO GRANDSON
SUE J. DUSTIN & CARRIE AYRES	17	MARGARET M.	18 19	20	21	22 KAY D.
PAT C.	23	24	25 26 BYSON S.	27	28	29
30	31					



**All Birthdays
are in Bold.**



“Billy says he doesn’t hafta go to church anymore ‘cause his phone has an app for that!”

Northwest United Protestant Church

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/northwestupchurch

Staff:

Miriam GentleSettled Pastor
 Anna Kion & Deb Donahoe.Co-Moderators
 Erica Nunez.Secretary
 Sue Lincoln..... Choir Director/Pianist
 Court RiekeNursery

NORTHWEST REMINDER is a non-profit monthly newsletter published by Northwest United Protestant Church, 1312 Sacramento Blvd., Richland, WA, 99354

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.