

THE TIDINGS

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.



Renewing Our Commitment

I can say with some degree of certainty that most of us don't think about idolatry all that often. When we do, we often imagine primitive religion that believes statues have magical powers to protect us and rescue us; that somehow these inanimate objects of human creation have been believed to hear our prayers and respond to offerings and sacrifices. Beyond insulting the people the past whom we think held these

beliefs, it also removes the power of the concept from the possibility of our using it to describe reality here and now. Idolatry simply means replacing God with something that is not God. Between now and Pentecost I'm going to use this symbol set to talk about where our security comes from and how thinking this way might help us better understand the political and social environment we find ourselves in today.

Instead of thinking of an idol as an actual deity with power, we can think of it as a human created means to achieve something that is promised by God. Is there really true peace apart from the peace that comes from God? Is there really true security except for the security that comes through God? And when we create peace without involving God or create security that ignores the will and desires of God, are those things truly durable? Our God is a God of Justice, and yet so much "peace", "security", and status in this world comes out of injustice. Security itself ends up replacing God in our lives; we move away from God and God's love for all people in order to experience this security, which is often produced through domination.

The things that we idolize end up manipulating us eventually because they're never as pure, as perfect, or as powerful as we need them to be. Whiteness, which we tend to think of as a racial or ethnic category, is in fact an idolatrous creation designed to produce security for its followers. Its means of security is based on unequal access to resources and unfair advantage given to those deemed worthy of the title. As society has changed, the currency of Whiteness has decreased in value, which can explain so much of the White backlash we see in the politics of the last forty years. The solution is to see Whiteness for what it really is, and to reject it by orienting towards the God of justice, mercy, and love. This month we will do just that.

In Peace,
Pastor Andrew



Sunday Worship Service in the Sanctuary at 10:30!
We provide nursery care Sunday mornings during the church service!

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY - If you would like a ride to any church event listed please contact Peggy Rich joyinthemorning1130@gmail.com or call (206)460-3021 and she will arrange your transportation to and from these planned events.

Do Justice

Love Mercy

Walk Humbly



Claiming Our Freedom Sermons & Scriptures

Sundays May 4 - June 8
 Standing Against the Idolatry of
 Whiteness Study 12 - 1:15
 Tuesdays Mike and Tobi's
 Dance & Art & Jazz
 Hang 4:15-6:15 PM
 Wednesdays Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 - 8:30

 May 3 Games, Games,
 Games 2-5
 May 10 West Seattle Garage
 Sale 9 - 3 (Set up at 7:30)
 May 12 Recompose Tour 12

Looking Ahead!

June 22 - Final Worship with
 Choir In the Sanctuary and
 Admiral Farewell Celebration
 10:30 - 2
 Aug. 24 - Community Concert
 and Picnic 12 - 3

May 4 - Sermon: Knowing When We
 Need a Wake-Up Call
 Scripture: Jeremiah 10:1-16
 Anthem: Many and Great

May 11 - MOTHER'S DAY
 Sermon: Knowing Our Security
 is in the Wrong Place
 Scripture: Amos: 8:4-6, 11-14
 Anthem: If Every Woman in the
 World

May 18 - Sermon: Knowing We Have
 Chosen to Forget Our
 History
 Scripture: Hosea 11:1-9
 Anthem: We Are...

May 25 - Sermon: Knowing We
 Replaced God With
 Something Else
 Scripture: Ezekiel 14:1-7
 Anthem: TBD from the Justice
 Choir Songbook



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**HUGE YARD SALE SATURDAY MAY 10!
HELPERS MUCH NEEDED!**

Admiral Church will participate in the “West Seattle Community Garage Sale Day” on Saturday May 10 from 9 am to 3 pm. We have LOTS of STUFF to move along before we go to our transition space in August, and this is a great chance to find good homes for some of the items we won't be needing any longer and help our threadbare church budget as well. And we need YOUR HELP!!

How?

BAKERS! We're having a Bake Sale as an extra added attraction at the Yard Sale! Contact Anita (206-300-6974) if you can contribute. Anything welcome!!

PRE-SALE HELP! Willing and able helpers would be much appreciated on Friday May 9 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm to carry items up from the sub-basement or down from the loft or from the storage container to the Sanctuary to organize. Setting up tents and tables are also on the agenda.

DAY-OF HELP! Willing and able helpers needed from 8:00 am onward on May 10 to finish setup of tents and tables, bring out items and arrange on designated tables, set up Bake Sale and lemonade table, staff all tables.

CLEANUP CREW! And of course, there's always cleanup. 3 pm until it's done. This will include getting the tables and tents back into the church, cleaning up the church grounds, and putting all of the unsold items in the storage pod in the parking lot.

RSVP to Peggy (206-460-3021) if you can help. If we don't hear from you, YOU may be hearing from US! Ha.

Thanks, All! It's going to be EPIC!!

TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Our next Work Party will be May 24th. We will be packing the unsold yard sale items from the storage pod into a van to take it to Goodwill. Come lend a hand!

NO “FIRST SUNDAY” POTLUCKS IN MAY AND JUNE

Our usual First Sunday Brunch Potlucks will NOT be held on May 4th and June 1st, because of a conflict with Pastor Andrew’s “Idolatry of Whiteness” study series. (Which we hope you will all be attending, by the way.)

There will be regular coffee hour on both those days.

First Sunday Potlucks will return in July and will continue into our St John space, beginning with our first service there on September 7! So, save those favorite recipes!

OUTREACH TEAM

The Outreach Team supports the Westside Neighbors Shelter and the Welcome Table community meal as Admiral Church’s primary missional efforts. This has been made possible by your generous donations of food, clothing, money and time. Here’s what’s happening and how you can continue to help:

Welcome Table. We have an opportunity to provide food and support for WIN on Saturday, June 7 to over 100 marginalized members of our community at Body of Christ Church in White Center. If you wish to contribute food or if you are willing to help serve food or distribute clothing, contact Susan Oatis (206) 937-9292. Many hands make light work!



This is a great hands-on mission to help those in our West Seattle community who really need it!

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS TEAM



CELEBRATE THE ADMIRAL CHURCH!

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1899. A small group of hardy residents of the North Admiral area of West Seattle join together to form West Seattle Congregational Church.

1900. The first church in West Seattle is built on land donated by one of the founders. (Of course, the land was originally taken from the Duwamish people in the Treaty of Point Elliot in 1855.) This building stood on what is now the parking lot of Admiral Church.

1962. The current building is constructed and occupied (after several local and national mergers and name changes) by the Admiral Congregational United Church of Christ, familiarly called Admiral Church.

2025. Admiral Church moves to transitional space to await construction of its new home as part of an affordable housing development, after donating its property to Homestead Community Land Trust.

2027. Admiral Church returns!

**FOND FAREWELLS and DARING DREAMS
SUNDAY JUNE 22**

**SPECIAL WORSHIP 10:30
GATHERING and REFRESHMENTS 12:00
PROGRAM 12:30**

So let's celebrate! Celebrate our 125 year history on our property, the longest of any church in West Seattle. Celebrate 63 years of worshiping God and serving our community and world in our beloved building, still beautiful, in spite of wounds and leaks and time's heavy hand. Celebrate all the faithful followers of Jesus who have made Admiral Church what it is today. Celebrate US! We're still here, we're still loving and serving God, we won't stop!

(Actually, Admiral Church is not moving immediately to its transitional worship space at St John the Baptist Episcopal Church. That will happen on September 7. And Admiral Church Community Center will remain behind in our current

building, serving the neighborhood with meeting and activity space until Spring 2026.)

Please come on June 22! Join with members and friends old and new as we close this current chapter in the history of Admiral Church and open its new one!



FAITH JOURNEY TEAM

Pastor Andrew will be presenting his, very well received, study on Standing Against the Idolatry of Whiteness from 12-1:15 each Sunday during May and the first half of June. You are invited to join this study by registering on the Admiral webpage. As part of this study and its accompanying sermons, Andrew will be joined by AJ Musewe on May 18th and June 1st.

The topics for each week will be:

May 4 - Knowing When We Need a Wakeup Call

May 11 - Knowing Our Security Is In the Wrong Place

May 18 - Knowing We Have Chosen to Forget Our History

May 25 - Knowing We Replaced God With Something Easy

June 1 - Knowing Our Comfort Now Requires Sedatives

June 8 - Learning What True Freedom Feels Like

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This series will draw from readings provided by Andrew from Web Dubois, Malcolm X, Robin D'Angelo, Jennifer Harbey, David Billings, Paul Kivel, Ta-Neishi Coates, Claudia Rankine, James Baldwin, and Ibram X Kendi. All of whom are considered Modern Profits.

People will be talking about this series! Don't miss out!



PFLAG



PFLAG WITH CORI & ANDREW **THIRD TUESDAY**
ADMIRAL CHURCH **IN PERSON 7:30-9pm**
4320 sw HILL st SEA. WA. 98116 PFLAG.org

MEETING May 20 7:30-9:00

Please join us for our next PFLAG meeting on Tuesday, April 15 @7:30 PM. For more than 50 years, PFLAG has been providing peer-to-peer support, publications, toolkits, and other resources to make sure that the family members of people who are LGBTQ+ get the support they need.



CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS TEAM

GAMES, GAMES, GAMES

Are you an old-fashioned gamer? Expert or beginners are welcome. Hands on boardgames, traditional games, new games, card games, whatever type of

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game you like to play - this is your chance to show us what you've got! Come share a fun time with church friends and their friends on the first Saturday of each month!

May. 3, from 2:00 - 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall

MIKE AND TOBI'S DANCE & ART & JAZZ HANG

WHERE "CREATIVES" GET TOGETHER

Tuesdays 4:15-6:15 PM

Get ready for a thrill! From 4:15 to 4:45 PM every Tuesday, we're holding our JAM 'N' ART session with a vibrant "SHAKE, DANCE & HEAL DANCE PARTY". It's the perfect way to let go of stress, release pent-up emotions, and energize your body! This is your chance to shake off any tension and ground yourself through the power of dance. Let's get moving and grooving! **4:30-6:15 PM** Tobi Stone and Mike Henderson are joining jazz improv jam for all ages and interactive art, all happening in the Sanctuary. Jazz standards and rare swing tunes- easy sight reading, fun jamming! Beginners learn from advanced students, and advanced players get a chance to play with others. Mike brings opportunities to express yourself in painting, puppet and craft making. Call Tobi with questions at 206.412.0145 and contact Mike at 206.566.9822 for more info.

**Worship Service
every Sunday @ 10:30
www.admiralchurch.org**



***Admiral Congregational
United Church of Christ
4320 Southwest Hill St.
Seattle, WA 98116
(206) 932-2928
officemgr@admiralchurch.org***