

THE TIDINGS

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



Towards a Progressive Apocalypse

Every generation has believed they are in the end times. Every generation has seen something come to pass that their parents' generation could not have imagined, something so egregious or terrifying or disruptive to the norm that they say, "Surely this is crossing that final line in the sand". Often this is coupled with the new generation not remembering (or never learning) the horrors of generations past, never

before having tasted real deprivation, prolonged suffering, pervasive fear, or institutional betrayal. Some of us lived through global war, social upheaval, devastating disease, and government-endorsed purges of "unpatriotic" artists and scholars. Today we face not only political instability, but the looming climate crisis and its hastening of a total collapse of global late-stage capitalism. Every generation sees itself in the end times. And perhaps this is as it should be.

Studying the prophets reveals a deeply Biblical call to recognize catastrophe is looming. Each of them responds to this call in their own place and time, yet they hang together, warning of a political, social, and religious order that has deviated from God's will for humanity and is facing ruin. Ruin did come, first to Israel, then to Judah, centuries before Jesus was born; ruin came again to Jerusalem forty years after Jesus was executed. Every kingdom on Earth has experienced these swings of fortune, the rise and fall of Empire. Perhaps these books have been canonized precisely because while they refer to historical events, the "end of the world" is a perennial reality. Regardless, the

writings make clear that our response to the proclamation of the prophets matters to God.

The stark, emphatic language of the prophets confronts readers with a contrast between their lives of relative security and predictability now, and the coming cataclysm they don't yet see on the horizon. Their goal is to agitate us, to be so jarring and disruptive that we look up from our daily grind to see the bigger picture, a collection of logical consequences for violence, greed, exploitation, and disregard that all lead where we would rather not consider. Their first goal is to have us acquiesce to this reality of orientation, to see that "God's wrath is coming" for our civilization, not for our individual sins. This in itself is a heavy enough burden, one most of them failed to achieve before it was confirmed in the armies of their enemies. Beyond acceptance, though, they had another goal in mind: pivot, not to avert, but to endure.

One thing is certain about the end of the world: it is going to be chaotic, messy, and painful for many, many people. The climate crisis alone is beginning a mass migration that we will see increase 100-fold in the next 30 years. People will be looking to flee violence, starvation, and pestilence, and indeed already are. I believe the hard-line immigration policy we see today is in fact more preparation for this than response to what is occurring now. The conclusion conservatives draw is to keep people out, not to fulfill Matthew 25:31-46 (*"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did it to Me."*) The question the prophets offer us is one of pivot: what can we do now that prepares our descendents to endure the coming wrath?

This is the question of faithful communities today: how can the progressive church embrace an apocalyptic disposition that inspires us to organize for collective liberation? Conservative churches twist the prophets into condemnation of our queer and trans* siblings, with no critique for the greed and violence of our society. In the name of Jesus, now is the time to respond!

In Peace and With Fire,

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.



Pastor Andrew

CELEBRATION OF LIFE **JAY MURRAY**



Jay Murray was a lifelong resident of West Seattle. He passed away peacefully at his family's mountain retreat in Silverton, WA, on Friday, March 7th, 2025, where he and his family have enjoyed life alongside the South Fork of the Stillaguamish River since his childhood. He passed away just shy of his 89th birthday.

Jay was a long-time member of the Admiral United Church of Christ. He was a youth leader, a member of the choir, as

well as, a highly respected
“elder” of the church. His

Church Events

Tuesdays Tobi's Jazz Hang 5 -7
Wednesdays Choir Rehearsal
7:00 - 8:30

June 7 Games, Games,
Games 2-5

June 7 - Welcome Table Meal
11:30

June 8 Last Meeting of

Standing Against the
Idolatry of Whiteness
Study 12 - 1:15

June 8 - Karaoke for the Spirit
at the Admiral Pub 7:00

June 21 - Jay Murray
Celebration of Life 1 - 4

June 22 - Fond Farewells and
Daring Dreams Worship
Service and Reception
10:30 - 2

June 28 - Transition Work Party
1:00 - 3:00 **(Note
Change of Date)**

Looking Ahead!

July 6 - July Sunday Brunch
after Worship

Aug. 24 - Community Concert
and Picnic 12 - 3

Claiming Our Freedom Sermons & Scriptures

June 1 - Sermon: Knowing our Comfort
Now Requires Sedatives

Scripture: Isaiah 2:5-22

Anthem: In Remembrance

June 8 - PENTACOST SUNDAY

Sermon: Learning What True
Freedom Feels Like

Scripture: Micah

1:1-7, 4:1-5

Anthem: Come Together

June 15 - Sermon: the Promise of
Wisdom

Scripture: John 16:12-15 &
Romans 5:1-5 &

Proverbs

8:1-4, 22-31

Anthem: What the World
Needs Now

(Environmental Remix)

June 22 - Sermon: the Hope of
Encounter

Scripture: Luke 8:26-39 &
Galatians 3:23-29 & 1

Kings

19:1-15e

Anthem: Showstopper and

presence and his humor will be greatly missed.

The Celebration of Jay's Life will be at 2:00 on June 21 at Admiral Church.

TRANSITION COMMITTEE

To avoid conflict with the Celebration of Life for Jay Murray, our next Work Party will be June 28th. We will be packing boxes and bins to be moved to St. John the Baptist and to West Coast Storage this summer. There is plenty of work for everyone, so come join us so that by August we can say, "Our bags are packed, we're ready to go."

OUTREACH TEAM

The Outreach Team supports the Westside Neighbors Shelter and the Welcome Table community meal as Admiral Church's primary missional efforts.

WELCOME TABLE

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

2025 SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM PLANS

It's June! It's June! It's time to start thinking about Admiral's Summer Food Program. You may remember that

Do Justice

Love Mercy



last year we collected over 3000 pounds of food! All of you contributed food, time and money generously, as did so many of our neighbors, to set that extraordinary record!

This year, we are making a few changes, to accommodate our extra busy summer schedule – and, especially, to put less strain on all of you - the members of Admiral Church.

We will run the food program from June 15 through August 17.

We will partner again with White Center Food Bank to pick up and redistribute our donated food and to buy more food with cash donations. We will again have a box on the porch for after-hours donations, as well as a barrel in the narthex.

We will also highlight the Food Donation Program in all announcements about our summer gatherings, like the June 22.

We will change two parts of last year's program:

- We will NOT staff a donations table Saturday afternoons on the Church lawn
- We will leaflet our neighbors about the program, but only once.

I'm hoping these changes will make it easier for everyone. But if you have other ideas to make our food program less work or more productive, please let me know.

Thanks,

Susan Oatis, Outreach Team Leader

TRUSTEES TEAM REPORT

The Trustees Team has three important roles in the life of Admiral Church.

First is overseeing church finances. No news to report there, income and expenses have been about as budgeted. Second is overseeing the church building and grounds. Well, most of our building issues have historically been related to water: roof leaking and drain flooding. Hasn't been raining, so the building has been holding its own. Ha.

The third area of Trustees responsibility is supervising non-worship uses of the building. Well, there has been a significant development in this area! As you know, all worship and office functions of Admiral Church will be moving to temporary transitional space at St John the Baptist Episcopal Church in August. We had planned for non-worship uses (12-Step and other rental groups, Metro drivers, music lessons, concerts and recitals, etc) to move with us at that time.

However, after reconsideration of the implications of leaving our building empty for seven months or so until construction begins (such as vandalism, graffiti and intrusion risk), we have now decided to keep 4320 SW Hill St open for rentals and other uses through the fall and winter. If the Sanctuary roof holds out through another rainy season, we may even be able to hold our Christmas Market and Mardi Gras Celebration and Jazz Concert in their usual locales! Michael Henderson has agreed to serve as Caretaker for the building, and John Alvis will continue as part-time custodian.

The preschool will still be moving down to its new space at Alki UCC at the end of August, opening up the basement for potential expansion of creative and other activities. Mike Henderson and Tobi Stone are already brainstorming possibilities.

So, it's a win-win-win: Rental income, serving the community and keeping our building active and vibrant in its last months, before demolition begins. Gotta love a "Triple-Win"!

Anita Shaffer, Trustees Team Leader.

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS TEAM



CELEBRATE THE ADMIRAL CHURCH!

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

Do Justice

Love Mercy

Walk Humbly

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!

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NEXT "FIRST SUNDAY" POTLUCK JULY 6TH

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. The next "First Sunday Potluck" is scheduled for July 6th after worship! Sounds like a late Fourth of July Celebration!



We will be continuing our "First Sunday" Potluck tradition into our St John space, beginning with our first service there on September 7! So, save those favorite recipes!

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Search Committee is comprised of seven members, six regular and one ad hoc. Regular members are Anita Shaffer (Chair), Wes Andersen, Barb Edwards, Ken Kriekenbeck, Mike Piraino and James South. Our Moderator Peggy Rich attends meetings with voice but no vote. The SC has been meeting every two weeks since early April, working toward finding a replacement for Pastor Andrew within about the next two years.

Although the efforts of the SC are confidential per Admiral Church Bylaws, we can tell you that we have been hard at work on formulating our Church Profile, a crucial first step in pastoral search. We have a goal of completing this extensive document by August, at which time it will be shown to the congregation for input. Then it will be sent to the United Church of Christ for posting to interested applicants. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of pastors in the UCC at this time, but we hope that our unique situation, poised as we are on the brink of an exciting redevelopment project, will draw attention to our profile post and send us the candidate we need! With God's guidance, of course.

When you get a chance, thank an SC member! We're working hard for YOU!

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Anita Shaffer, Pastoral Search Committee Chair

(PS: Why don't we call ourselves the PSC instead of the SC? Because that acronym is already taken by the Pastoral Support Committee. Ha.)

PFLAG



MEETING JUNE 17th 7:30-9:00

Please join us for our next PFLAG meeting on Tuesday, June 17th @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

Do

Love Mercy

Walk Humbly



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 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!

June 7, from 2:00 - 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall

TOBI'S JAZZ HANG

WHERE "CREATIVES" GET TOGETHER

Tuesdays 5 - 7

Tobi Stone holds a weekly jazz improv jam for all ages 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. Call Tobi with questions at 206.412.0145. All are welcome, so dust off that clarinet, saxophone or piccolo and join Tobi for a relaxing, fun evening. Listeners are welcome.



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



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