

THE TIDINGS

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



Building What Comes Next with LOVE

There is something beautiful happening at Admiral. We are in a season of transition, yes but even more, I believe we are in a season of formation. God is not simply preparing a new building for us; God is inviting us to think deeply about the kind of church, community, and people we are becoming.

As we enter this season of stewardship, I keep returning to three words: Time. Talent. Treasure. Stewardship is bigger than what we give financially. It is the recognition that everything we have, our time, our gifts, our resources, our relationships, our wisdom, even our stories, can become part of what God is building through us.

Our time matters. How we show up for one another matters. Our talent matters. There are gifts within this congregation that our church and our wider community need. And yes, our treasure matters. Our financial generosity makes ministry possible and helps us prepare faithfully for what is coming next.

But underneath all three, there must be something even deeper: LOVE

I have said in recent sermons that LOVE must be the core and the center of what we do. It must be the foundation upon which everything else is built. Before programs, before buildings, before budgets, before strategies, LOVE,

When folks ask, "What are WE talking about" Over at Admiral? Our life as a church ought to make the answer clear. We are talking about a LOVE that makes room. A LOVE that crosses the lines fear tries to draw. A LOVE that refuses to leave people outside. A LOVE that does not simply speak, but shows up. And that makes me incredibly excited about what is ahead for Admiral.

Our partnership with Homestead, the reimagining of our physical home, our deepening commitment to justice, our growing ministries, and the relationships we are building

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throughout West Seattle are all giving us glimpses of what Admiral can become. We have an opportunity not simply to rebuild a church building, but to help build a community where people can experience belonging, dignity, equity, spiritual formation, and LOVE!

There is so much ahead of us, and I am grateful that we get to build it together. So during this stewardship season, I invite each of us to ask:

What time can I offer? What talent can I share? What treasure can I entrust to this ministry? And how can LOVE be at the center of it all? Because what God is doing among us is simply too good to hold. This is too good to keep to ourselves.

With LOVE and excitement for what is ahead,

Pastor Jermell

2028



OFFICE HOURS

Office Manager's Office Hours are Tues.-Thurs, 2:00 - 4:00. Closed Monday and Friday. You can reach the Admiral Church office at 206.932.2928. The fastest way to contact us is via email at admiralchurchoffice@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours are Mondays 10:00 - 2:00 and Wednesdays 10:00 - 12:00. Make an appointment or just stop by. Additionally, individual Zoom sessions are available by appointment. Please call (206)471-1597 or email him at jermell.witherspoon@gmail.com to arrange a time and location.

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STEWARDSHIP

Too Good to Hold Sunday Brunch Sunday, October 4, 2026

Join us for brunch as we celebrate the dedication, planning, and many hours of work contributed by the Admiral congregation over the past year. Together, we will reflect on our accomplishments, revisit what we learned from last year's conversations about our future, and begin mapping out our next steps.

Our theme, "Too Good to Hold," expresses our commitment to sharing our light throughout North Admiral and the wider community.

Hosted by Admiral Church's Sustainability and Stewardship Committee.
See you there!

OUTREACH TEAM

Helping Hand Fund **CAN YOU LEND A HAND?**

Did you know Admiral Church has a Helping Hand Fund? It is administered by the Outreach Team (Susan Oatis, Leader; Team members Peggy Rich and Anita Shaffer). Generous donors to this fund bless our community in so many ways! YOU could be one of them!

You can contribute to the Helping Hand Fund! Your check or online donation designated for Helping Hand will make a difference in the lives of those walking challenging paths. Reach Out!!

Outreach Team welcomes new members! Just talk to Susan Oatis to become a part of this inspiring ministry. THANKS!!

Anita Shaffer for Outreach Team

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UPCOMING ADMIRAL EVENTS

Get involved in our upcoming events and find meaningful ways to share your time and talents. Whether you'd like to help out at a neighborhood festival or support a special celebration, there are wonderful opportunities for everyone to connect and serve.

Trunk or Treat: Date & Time: October 30, 3-6:00 PM

Installation of Pastor Jermell: Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 PM

Please reach out to Anita Shaffer songinmyheart411@gmail.com or Peggy Rich joyintemorning1130@gmail.com if you're interested in helping out.

WHAT IS TRUNK-OR-TREAT

In West Seattle, “Trunk-or-Treat” is a safe, community-organized Halloween event where decorated vehicles line up in a public space, and local residents hand out candy and treats to costumed children.

Admiral Church is considering participation in this community event this year, but we need people to support it. To make a significant showing we will need money/ donations of car decorations, candy to hand out and people to “man the fort”, as well as, planners of the event. Interested? Let us know!



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WHAT A UCC PASTOR INSTALLATION IS ABOUT

In the United Church of Christ (UCC), an **installation of a new pastor** is a formal worship service that **celebrates, affirms, and blesses the call of a newly chosen pastor to ministry** in a local church.

Purpose and meaning

The installation is both a **liturgical act** and a **covenantal moment**. It publicly confirms the covenant between the local church and the newly called pastor, and also reaffirms the covenantal relationship among all churches in the pastor's association, conference, and wider Christian community. It is a way of saying, "*You belong here*", granting the pastor a sense of permanence and belonging in their ministry.

Spiritual and communal significance

UCC tradition views ministry as a **call** rather than a job, understood as the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the church. The installation affirms that this call has been discerned through multiple affirmations — by the Holy Spirit, by a Search Committee, and by the wider church body — before the pastor is installed. It is also an opportunity for the congregation to express welcome, hope, and commitment to the pastor's work.

When and why it happens

Installations usually occur **within the first year** of a pastor's ministry, often on a Sunday, and may be attended by people from other churches. It is a time to connect the new pastor with the wider network of UCC churches and to celebrate the shared mission of the body of Christ.

**Join us November 1st for
Pastor Jermell Witherspoon's installation
in the Admiral Chapel at 2:00.**

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CONNECTIONS TEAM



The Connections Team has taken on the organization of the Potluck and Coffee Hour sign-ups for after church socializing. Two weeks before a new month begins a sign-up sheet for hosting these social events will be presented and passed around during church and coffee hour. Those who sign up will be sent a sheet of directions detailing the tasks involved so that they can plan efficiently.

Please consider signing up to help spread the work load of those who have been doing it for years. It isn't difficult and it will help A LOT!

FAITH JOURNEY, SACRED RECKONINGS AND RACIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEES

WA: REPARATIONS STARTING SEPT 24!



Have you wished you understood more about what it could mean for the United States to make reparations to the descendants of enslaved persons? To really make amends for the untold sufferings of their ancestors, with whose blood and toil our nation was built? To make amends for years, decades, centuries of economic, social, educational, medical, housing, legal and citizenship injustice, all still ongoing?

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Have you wished you could be an ally in bringing about that reparative justice, but just didn't know where to start?

Well, here's a great place: Beginning on September 24, brought to you by your Faith Journey, Racial Justice and Sacred Reckonings Committees, is this 8-session Zoom education and action series:

WA: REPARATIONS is a series of eight Thursday evening Zoom sessions from 6-7:00 pm. Each evening will be led by experts on this topic and will include personal testimony and interactive action planning, as well as education. Here are the subjects for these sessions:

Sep 24 Foundations: How the System was built; implications for WA State.
Oct 1 Bondage, de facto bondage, employment and work conditions.
Oct 8 Land: The promise, the reversal, the subsidy.
Oct 15 Housing in WA: Covenants, redlining and displacement.
Oct 22 Health, medical exploitation and the health gap.
Oct 29 Citizenship: Schools, the ballot and the call.
Nov 5 Reparations and reparative justice on the way.
Nov 12 Wayfinding forward.

Leaders include Rev Elizabeth Gordon, Michael Gordon, Rev Craig Rennebohm and Rev Jermell Witherspoon.

The sessions are free, though registration is requested, to enable break-out planning. Please see our admiral.church website. It's not too late to join in!

Two books can be read as background: : "From Here to Equality" by William Darity; "Getting to Reparations" by Dorothy Brown. These are available online or in the Admiral Church sanctuary (\$20 to Peggy Rich). The books are not required, however, and you can still get a lot out of these sessions, even if you have not had time to read them yet.

PLEASE JOIN US! Your heart tells you this is the right path forward. The Jesus path. Follow it! Learn more! And ACT! REGISTER TODAY! COME ON THURSDAYS AT 6:00.

Anita Shaffer, Faith Journey Committee Chair

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PFLAG MEETING MONDAY OCTOBER 19th

7:00-9:00

At the Admiral Chapel at SJB

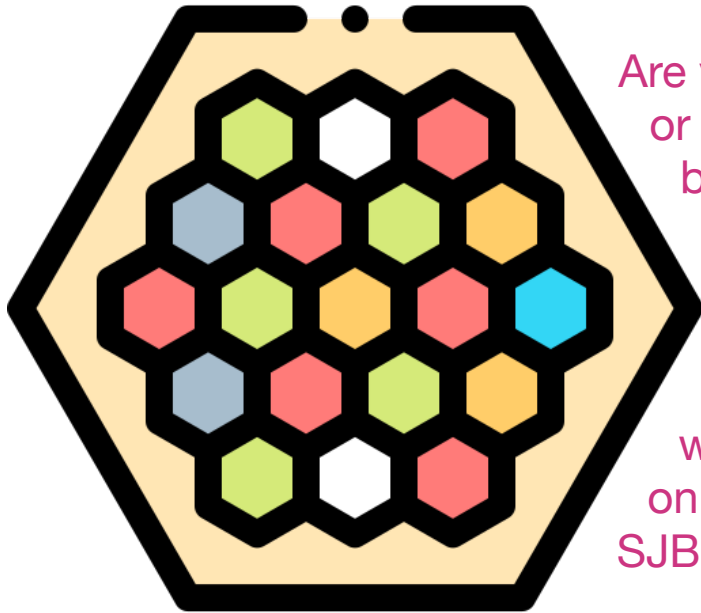
PFLAG is meeting in the Admiral Chapel at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church. On every third Monday night, Coco and Anita Shaffer will be there to provide peer-to-peer support, publications, toolkits, and other resources to make sure that the family members of people who are LGBTQ+ get the support they need.



Please join us for our next PFLAG meeting on Monday, October 19th @7:00 PM! Supporters are welcome!

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GAMES, GAMES, GAMES **OCTOBER 10th from 2:00-5:00**



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 at SJB!

3rd ANNUAL WESTSIDE INTERFAITH NETWORK CHILI COOK-OFF // Friday, Oct 16th @ 6pm

Location: Our Lady Guadalupe /Walmesley Center

Do you have a fantastic chili recipe? Come join the festive chili cook-off celebration: Congregations compete against one another to earn the Golden Crockpot for the best Chili in West Seattle! What we need: Many pots of chili; cornbread bakers, dessert makers; raffle baskets and items for the silent auction.

Entrance tickets can be accessed for the event and sign-up sheets for providing chili, cornbread, desserts on the WIN website: <https://westsideinterfaith.com/>

Attend the event: \$30 adults and kids 4-12 \$10

When: October 16th, 6pm

Where: Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, [7100 35th Ave SW, High Point, WA](#)

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