



Ronald United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation: open hearts, open minds, open doors
17839 Aurora Ave. North, Shoreline, WA 98133

206-542-2484 | office@ronaldumc.org | www.ronaldumc.org

Pastors: Kate Kilroy & Pat Simpson



Purpose-of-Ministry Statement: We are a responsive, respectful faith community reaching out in service to the needs of those around us with understanding, unlimited compassion, and Christ-centered support. **Vision statement:** Our vision of sustainable ministry is to be a center of hospitality, hope and service — responding to the spiritual and basic needs of our community.

Discipleship Practice

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.”

~James 1:22-26 ESV

~ Pastor Kate

Being a good listener is not the same as being a good doer. I can't really *be* something just because I have heard about it. Have you ever trusted a contractor to help you with a project because they had heard other contractors talk about contracting? I'm guessing not. You might believe they are good listeners and that they listened to the best — but what you really want is to know they have some experience! **Living our Christian faith is the same. We need to not just listen and learn the ways of Jesus — but to actually practice those ways!** Going to church on Sunday mornings is, hopefully a restful and enriching start to your week full of inspiration and hope. But it is not the center of our Christianity. Sunday worship is a celebration of our Christianity that strives to help us be inspired to practice our faith in the upcoming week. Sunday is not where we Christians do our "work" but where we learn what our work is, and are encouraged by the wisdom and joy we find in one another. No preacher, no matter how well educated, thoroughly endorsed, or charismatic in presentation, can explain Christ well enough to “make you a disciple.” Discipleship often begins and is nourished by preaching but it is simply incomplete.

That's because true students don't just put information in their heads by learning. *Students/disciples also apply their learning by putting it into practice!*

Are you ready to grow your faith? To engage your Christian "work" with faithful practice? What does that look like? How do Christians practice? Are you being called to grow in your Christianity by moving from the kind of student/disciple who just hears and receives to become a Christian who also practices?

The answer is yes. Yes, for each of us. (This author included.) Yes, you are being called!

Some of you are actively practicing your faith by serving our shared community during worship service, serving our communities, being good loving neighbors, and you take the love of Christ everywhere with you! I don't doubt that!

Yet, if our faith walk is healthy, each of us continues to grow and deepen the practice of our faith while we are blessed to live in this world! The practicing of discipleship is an on-going practice of love.

How we practice our faith and challenge ourselves to grow looks different based on where we are in our faith journeys. None are wrong. It is not a race for speed. It is not a competition with one another. It is an invitation to a more peaceful way of being as we root ourselves deeply in the abiding love of God. John Wesley explains our lives are lived by the grace of God. He expressed [three stages of grace](#). Depending on which stage we are in.

Below [page 2] I have created a chart where you might be able to identify yourself on your faith journey. My hope is that you would interact with it as a launch pad to begin to notice your “work” as you continue to grow as a student of Jesus. As we mature in our faith, we move further to the right while maintaining all the discipleship practices from previous steps along the way.

This is NOT meant to be an evaluation tool of others or of anyone's worth. Nor is it a tool to shame anyone to “level up” in their discipleship. ALL PEOPLE are within the loving grace of God. No one is failing.

Rather than an evaluation tool it is an invitation. A holy, tender, gentle invitation to do what Philippians 2:12 (Amplified Version) tells us about:

“So then, my dear ones, just as you have always obeyed [my instructions with enthusiasm], not only in my presence but now much more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation [that is, cultivate it, bring it to full effect, actively pursue spiritual maturity] with awe-inspired fear and trembling [using serious caution and critical self-evaluation to avoid anything that might offend God or discredit the name of Christ].”

Three Stages of Grace

A tool of invitation
(explained on page 1)

	Prevenient grace	Justifying grace	Sanctifying grace	
Stage explained	God's grace that is operative before we are in any way aware of it	God's grace that restores us to God -- as we become aware of God's love for us	The grace that brings us closer to God's way throughout our lives.	
Faith Development Sometimes each stage takes many years. For others, they may move through a stage quickly. There is no "wrong" way to grow.	None intentionally	Curiosity and hunger for something more	Intentionally engaging	Moving on toward "perfection"
Discipleship invitation Consider doing some of these "work" ideas that help grow on your discipleship journey.	At this point in your journey you are not participating in your faith growth but grace is still working in your life and God is with you though you are not partnering with it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Start to notice patterns around you. * Follow your curiosity. * Noticing your own state of being. * Explore faith communities with the intention of finding people to grow with. * Consider being baptized and/or becoming a member of a faith community. * Explore a relationship with prayer, the Bible, communion, fellowship, and acts of personal piety like fasting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Attend spiritual worship and participate regularly in a faith community with your prayers, presence, talents, and volunteering. * Shift your free time to include time with others seeking to know Christ. * Beyond Sunday service, join a discipleship community. * Occasionally serve our wider community (civic advocacy and social welfare) * Share your experience and invite others to join you in existing spiritual events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Notice people around you and connect to their suffering as your own. * Regularly serve our wider community (civic advocacy and social welfare). * Create opportunities for others to connect and grow their faith through common, grassroots discipleship (dinner groups, walking groups, bible reading, prayer circles, musical praise groups, compassion clubs, etc,) and invite people to join you on your journey!
A scripture to pray over yourself.		Psalms 34:8 "Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."		

James 1:22
Says "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only..."

Philippians 2:1-4
"...be deep-spirited friends... Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand."



Picture of John Wesley from www.resourceumc.org

October Birthdays

October 2

- ◆ Landon Paet

October 4

- ◆ Edna Jonason

October 11

- ◆ Rose Ann Valdez

October 15

- ◆ Audrey De Pano

October 17

- ◆ Geronimo Buccat

October 19

- ◆ Noelle Paet

October 21

- ◆ Rey Roque

October 28

- ◆ Simon Reyes

October Anniversaries

October 11

Rose Ann & Abraham Valdez

October 21

Nyaradzo & Jonathan Mvududu

Birthday & Anniversary Donations!

We have a tradition of donating to the church during your birthday and/or anniversary month for the number of years your are celebrating.

- ◆ The Reynolds 56th Anniversary
- ◆ The De Pano's Anniversary
- ◆ Shelly Hogan's Birthdays
- ◆ Larry Anderson's Birthday
- ◆ Sandra Reynold's Birthday

These donations will all go to support our Emergency Fund.

Donations to RUMC

A feature in our *Ronald Review* is to list the names of those who gave gifts in memory, honor, or thanksgiving along with the honoree or the event.

- ◆ Rev. Nizzi Digan, in memory of mother, Evangelina Digan

These gifts go into the Memorial Fund/Capital Campaign, and are used to purchase items to enhance our worship, facilitate our fellowship, and further our mission.

Garden Sale

~ Darol Reynolds

Thank you for your support of the garden sale — both by your donations of cash and your donations of produce and fruit.

Proceeds support the general fund.

Need home canning supplies?

Michael Brunson, longtime church member, has his mother's collection of canning jars that he would like to give to someone who would enjoy them the way she did.

The jars are large, and some have special lids for canning pickles. He would like to do a barter in exchange for the jars.

Alternatively, if you would like to try canning, Michael is willing to loan you the jars you need to see if it's something you'd like to do.

Call Michael at 206-542-3264.

Church Finance & Stewardship Updates

3 Planned Gifts that Help Now

Part 1: IRA Rollover Gift

As we enter a time of year associated with generosity, you should be aware that there are types of planned gifts that can benefit our church immediately. These gifts can also have great tax advantages for you as the donor.

The first option in this series is an **IRA Rollover Gift.**

People aged 70.5 or older can make gifts directly from their traditional Individual Retirement Accounts.

How?

Simply call the financial institution that holds your IRA, specify the dollar amount and the church name and address

(Ronald United Methodist Church, 17839 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline, WA 98133),

and instruct them to cut a check and mail it directly to the church. These gifts (up to a \$100,000 per year per person) count toward your required minimum distribution, and because they come directly from a pre-tax savings account to a tax-exempt charity, neither you nor the church pays any tax.

Questions?

Email Finance@RonaldUMC.org.

Next month: Appreciated Stock.



Benefit Concert by Dr. Dainius Vaičekonis

Saturday, September 9, Dr. Dainius Vaičekonis played a benefit concert for the Ronald United Methodist Church's capital campaign.

The Symphonic Grandeur, lasted for just over an hour, highlighting the feelings and sounds of Indonesia, through pieces by Godowsky and Suprana, and the range of the piano in the culminating piece from Schumann. Dr. Vaičekonis brought the music to life for a sanctuary of over 100 guests. He received a standing ovation, and we were impressed that he played the entire concert from memory!!

The generosity of Dr. Vaičekonis and the RUMC members who volunteered in various ways, including advertising, technical set up, and making and serving delicious food brought in just over \$2,614 for the capital campaign.

Opportunities for involvement

~ Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger
Current RUMC board chair

We need four new board members/leaders
for 3-year terms who are interested in pursuing
these questions:

“Who are we?” & “What does God want of us?”

Specifically, we are seeking:

- ◆ **Chair:** leads the Board, focus on the congregations’ mission and setting the boundaries (policies) for living out the vision. Works closely with the Pastor, co-chair, SPRC, Financial Committee, and Trustees to execute the vision and mission of RUMC.
- ◆ **Co-chair:** provides leadership and support to the Board, Pastor(s), and Chair. Prepares to transition into the leadership position as Chair.
- ◆ **SPRC Member** (Staff-Parish Relations Committee) Essentially the human relations of RUMC: Serves with personnel focus.
- ◆ **Trustee:** focused on facilities — the building and its users.

Our church Board:

- ◇ represents the congregation
- ◇ meets three to six times per year
- ◇ holds an annual retreat to discern the mission, vision, and values leading RUMC.

By early November the SPRC team (Tara Sullivan, Gina del Rosario-Martin, Peggy Hansen) serving as nominating committee, will circulate its nominations to the current Board.

The slate will be presented for election at the:

Charge Conference, November 6, 7:00-8:30pm

If you are interested in sharing your gifts and passion for RUMC, please reach out to Tara Sullivan tarasullivan406@gmail.com;
text/phone: 406-897-3896.

Ronald UMC Personal Property Policy

Abridged version of “Personal Property & Overnight Policy” as unanimously approved at the Sept 18 Board meeting:

This policy is put into place as a reflection to our commitment to equitable practices. Because Ronald UMC is not in the position to responsibly offer the gift of personal property storage to all potential church attendees, members, guests, staff, tenants, etc. who might also desire to use the building in this way, we, the collective church board, offer this simplified policy to protect us from favoritism and complication with our social principals. No personal property may be stored on church property.

From Sept 24 — Oct 29, You are welcome to pick up anything of yours that you have been storing at church. We are planning two days especially for pick-up and donation .

- ◆ **Oct 1:** In the former sibling room/conference room 015 will be a collection of things we think belong to people. Pick up your things after worship.
- ◆ **Oct 8:** People are welcome to take/make a donation to the church for anything left in the sibling room/conference room 015. At end of the day, we will put remaining items in a Goodwill/Value Village van for donation.

Gaining Partners and Resources!

~ Pastor Kate

We are so curious about the many new community partners that God will send us to help care for the Shoreline area, and bless our church with outside financial resources. Please pray God will help us find people with hearts for relating to people that align with our mission as we share our space and support the needs of our building with the income this collaboration provides.

Collaborating with partners and sharing our space comes with some changes. Here are some for you all to be aware of:

RESERVE YOUR SPACE FOR YOUR EVENT

- ◆ ALL events hosted at Ronald UMC should be requested to the church office ASAP. We want you to be able to hold events important to our various ministries, but if someone else reserves the space, and no other requests were made, we might not be able to accommodate your plans exactly. YIKES! So email office@ronaldumc.org with a “space reservation request” as soon as you know you have something coming up!

PERSONAL PROPERTY

- ◆ We are so grateful for the many gifts many of you have shared with the church through the years! From bowls to books, you’ve made this church a place rich with possessions. However, we are running out of functional ways to store all these things and share space. Therefore, we will no longer have personal items stored at the church. We need to open as many spaces as possible for shared and orderly use. If you have any items that are your personal property, that you are not intending to donate to the church for the church to use freely, please take those things home! Property remaining at the church will be assumed donated to the ownership of the church collective. If that bothers you in any way, please, take your items home, and only bring them when they are in active use, so we don’t think they are the church’s belongings. By Sunday, October 29, you have a chance to think through all the items you’ve loaned us through the years. Thanks for understanding!

OVERNIGHTS AT THE CHURCH

- ◆ We need to be able to set a policy that is equitable for our partners and their community members as well. In order to do that, we are no longer hosting overnight guests in the church building. There are some exceptions for very temporary, short-term situations with the board’s approval. If you would like to see the policy or ask questions, that is, as always, totally welcome! Please email Pastor Kate at pastor@ronaldumc.org

October Calendar

October 1

World Communion Sunday

- ◇ Pick up your belongings

October 4

- ◇ 10:30am Martha's Circle

October 6

- ◇ 6-9pm Fellowship Night

October 8

- ◇ Make donation for leftover stuff

October 14

- ◇ 10am Caring Crafts

October 15

Honoring Day of the Dead

October 26

- ◇ Fold & label November *Review*

October 28

- ◇ 4-6pm Trunk-or-Treat!

WEEKLY

Sundays

- ◆ 10:45 worship

Tuesdays

- ◆ 6-8pm, Disciples Circle

Wednesdays

- ◆ 4:30pm Kids check in with Pastor Kate

Thursdays

- ◆ Pastor Kate office hours
- ◆ 10-11:30am, Bible Study
- ◆ 5:30pm, Ronald Commons Café
- ◆ Beers & Beliefs

Oct 1

After worship

Sibling room/conference room 015

Pick up any belongings you've been storing at the church.

United Women in Faith

Martha's Circle

October 4 at 10:30

Gathering Room

~ Sandra Reynolds

We will continue our discussions on events that we may sponsor, and on creative ways to support the capital campaign.

Lunch will be provided. Everyone is welcome to visit without making a commitment to join.

Church-wide Fellowship

October 6

Fellowship Hall, 6-9pm

Come and have a light-hearted evening of socializing.

Bring a board game if you'd like, or a food item to share.

Let's connect!

Oct 8

After worship

Sibling room/conference room 015

See what we have left. If you would like something, make a donation to the church, and take the item home. Anything left at the end of the day will be donated to Goodwill or Value Village.

Caring Crafts

October 14 from 10:00—4:00

Gathering Room

Everyone who loves doing handiwork in cheerful company is invited to bring their current project, and a lunch. Hang out for a little while or the whole day. Folks have worked on knitting, mending, crocheting, scrapbooking, card-making...

Please call Trina McCarrell to reserve your space — we do tend to spread out a lot.

World Communion Sunday

October 1

On World Communion Sunday, United Methodists, and other denominations and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ.

In 2022, you gave over \$457 thousand to provide racial and ethnic students with scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development.



Your generosity allows those unable to afford an education to become leaders who embody the mission of The UMC.

Donate online or mail your gift to: GCFA, PO Box 340029, Nashville, TN 37203

Day of the Dead

October 15

We will honor any person you love who has died. This is different than All Saints Day because we will honor anyone, not just believers, and anyone who died at any time, not just in the last year.

Bring a photo or a token of them if you'd like for a memorial. We will leave up the photo/tokens up until All Saints Sunday when we will have only the photos of the believers who died this year.

Please send the church office the names of any believing people who died after October 2022 so they are included on All Saints Sunday!

If you send the All Saint Day names to Erin at office@ronaldumc.org by Monday, Oct 23, we can remember your loved ones in the November Ronald Review.