



Embracing diversity for
shared liberation.

*a united methodist neighborhood church

RONALD REVIEW January 2023

Ronald United Methodist Church

Connect with God.

Connect with yourself.

Connect with your neighbor.

Because communing can heal us.

17839 Aurora Ave. N.
Shoreline, WA 98133
206-542-2484

office@ronaldumc.org

www.ronaldumc.org

Pastors: Kate Kilroy & Pat Simpson

New Years Traditions...

~ Pastor Kate

*"Behold, a virgin shall be with child,
and shall bring forth a son, and they
shall call his name Emmanuel, which
being interpreted is, God with us."*

~Matthew 1:23, KJV

Some might say that Christmas smells like pine trees and fresh cookies. I would say that New Year's Eve smells like the light lemon fragrance of wood polishing oil.

The religious tradition of my past revered New Year's Eve as perhaps the highest holy day. After about a six hour service, each exhausted heart would stumble out of the church somewhere around 1am with the peace that the night's sacred proceedings had been woven together to offer them a fresh start.

That fresh start smells like wood polishing oil.

About 24 hours prior to the service, the church building would be reconsecrated to the work of God for our community, just as our hearts would later be, with a deep clean. This deep clean of the physical building we call church was a beloved metaphor for my heart. The metaphor seeped into me slowly, like the oil, over the preparation hours, as I lay on the floor of the sanctuary polishing the often neglected crevices of each of the wood pews that supported our hungry souls.

This dusty, often grimey, and tedious task was often when my transformation came. Long before the service itself. Before the potluck. Before the board games. Before the warm basins of water for foot washing. Before the prompting for introspective journaling. Before the once-a-year opportunity to receive Holy Communion.



Photo by
Nikko Tan
pexels.com

The transformation happened for me when the sanctuary was still and my fingers had pruned with the Pledge polishing spray.

Reflecting on this time in my life, I noticed that perhaps this high holiday has such deep significance to me still not because the service itself. Though it was always well arranged with all of its blend of the sacred and the common. Nor was I transformed because the beauty of the anticipated rituals, as effective as they were. But maybe transformation came from my expectation.

I felt compelled to come to church early to prepare the space because of my expectation that God would meet me there. That the small act of preparing the physical space was a conscious embodiment of my belief that God would make time with me. Be with me.

Often there are many areas of our lives that we would desire to have a renewed sense of consecration. A fresh start, to simply just have God be there. But sometimes we struggle to have faith that God would meet us “there.”

Especially if the “there” is an area where we’ve let the dust pile up. Areas where there is a grimey, underbelly that has been deliberately ignored in the busy hustle of all the other good things of life. Yet, Spirit still invites us to notice that God is with us already! There is no gap to close. God with us! May we genuinely believe that we have the company of the Divine with us even now.



Image by [Myriams-Fotos](#)
from [Pixabay](#)

Maybe New Year’s has less to do with making declared New Year’s resolutions, or carefully choreographed ceremonies, and strategic rituals, and more why they’ve been developed in the first place – to help each of us to believe our Creator is meeting us. To expect that our God is with us. Inviting us to integrate the values of a fresh start by noticing our Divine company in our ordinary lives. With us in our morning commute. With us as we choose our food. With us as we take tender care of our bodies. With us as we try to express love for others while respecting ourselves.

God delights in our most human moments and is already “there.” Even if you don’t deep clean there first. I transform my attitude toward these things by believing that God will show up “there.” As you leave the hard times of last year behind you, and as the new year stands a mystery before us, embody whatever might help you develop this expectation that God is with us, for us! And know that even if you do not scrub the pews, or go through a ritual this New Years, God is there. With you.

January Birthdays

January 7

Dennis Reid

January 11

Brian Henry

January 12

Estelle Del Rosario-Martin

Gino Lopez

Salve Roque

January 13

Marvin Legaspi

January 19

Mario Valbuena

January 20

Joshua Mina

January 27

Ron Warner

January 31

Rosie Johnson

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.

- Mingh Saldana
- Tal Cuanan
- Darol Reynolds
- Rolly Del Rosario
- Chita Jesalva
- Marilyn Reid
- Arlene Anderson

These donations will all go to support our Emergency Fund.

Safety Officer

~ Sandra Reynolds

Please do not park in the area in front of the front steps. This area is for emergency vehicles. Parking there may delay urgently needed services.

Dropping off and picking up passengers is acceptable as long as the driver remains in the vehicle so that it can be moved right away if necessary.

Wearing masks in the building is optional.

Hand sanitizers will continue to be provided. These policies may be changed as needed by agreement among pastors and the safety officer.

Persons with symptoms of any contagious illness are asked to remain at home.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

As a church and people who believe in the power of prayer. Let us lift up our loved ones in the joys and concerns that they are experiencing.

- Prayers for Bishop Cedrick. His mother died the day after Thanksgiving

If you would like to have us pray for anyone, please notify us, and we will add them to next month's prayers.

Office@ronaldumc.org or 206-542-2484.

2024 Church Board

Co-chairs: Gina del Rosario-Martin, Tom Harris

Trustees: Jason Metcalf-Lindenburger, David Lewis, Brian Henry

Finance: Stephanie Henry, Trina McCarrell, Gretchen Holt

SPRC: Tara Sullivan, Shay Lavarias

Lay Leader: Marilyn Reid

Lay member to Annual Conference: Reuben Roque

Church Finance and Stewardship Update

Did you know that more than 30% of charitable giving happens in December? Whether you donated just last month or throughout the year, we're grateful for each and every gift we're entrusted with.

2024 Pledges: As we work to close the books on 2023, we also look ahead, eager for what 2024 will bring.

A huge thank you to the 44 individuals and households who submitted a 2024 pledge card!

If you haven't submitted one yet and need a blank pledge card, please reach out to Finance@RonaldUMC.org.

May this new year bring you and your family health, rest, warmth, and cheer.

Blessings,
Stephanie Henry stephjdhenry@gmail.com

City of Shoreline accepting ideas for environmental mini grants...do we have any ideas?

Want to help our community and the environment?! The City of Shoreline offers up to \$5,000 to individuals, community groups, schools, churches, and business owners for eligible projects.

Do you have an idea for an Environmental Mini-Grant project? Email office@ronaldumc.org and we can connect members who want to come up with ideas we can do as a church.

Simply, fill out a [short online form](#) using a computer, tablet or smartphone. We are accepting project ideas now through Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

Full details, including example project ideas to help you get started, view our [Environmental Mini-Grant guidelines](#). Visit ShorelineWA.gov/EnvironmentalMiniGrant for more information.



**Making
the Rough Places Smooth—
Removing Barriers (Is. 40:4)**

[Our website](#), newsletter, and media posts aim to inspire you and provide the practical information you need to become become accessible and inclusive congregations. Our resources are grounded in Wesleyan theology and informed and vetted by disabled UMC pastors and DMC members.

January 1, New Year's Day

January 3

- 10:30 Martha's Circle

January 11

- 5:30 Ronald Commons Cafe re-opens!

January 13

- 10:00 Caring Crafts

January 14, Human Relations Sunday

January 15, Martin Luther King, Jr day

January 18

- 10:30 Bible Study resumes
- 5:30 Ronald Commons Cafe

January 25

- 10:30 Bible Study
- 5:30 Ronald Commons Cafe

Sundays, 10:45 Worship

Mondays, 5:00 kids with Pastor Kate

Thursday evenings, Beers & Beliefs

Jan 22-Feb 1, Mon-Fri from 3:00-7:00

Point-in-time Count in the Chapel

Sunday School

~ Sandra Reynolds

New lessons will be available for pickup on the Sunday after Epiphany.

United Women in Faith, Martha's Circle Jan 3 at 10:30 in the Gathering Room

~ Sandra Reynolds

Ten people enjoyed our field trip to Swanson's nursery in Ballard for our December meeting, as we toured the Christmas pants and decorations.

We will meet again on Wednesday, January 3rd at 10:30 in the Gathering Room. Lunch will be provided. Everyone is invited to enjoy fellowship and an interesting program. You will be welcomed with no expectation of becoming a member, but new members are always welcome.

Caring Crafts

Jan 13 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 bit 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.

Pastor Kate will be on vacation
Jan 1-14.

Pastor Pat will be available – you
can reach her at

psimpsonpnwumc@gmail.com

Kids check in with Pastor Kate Monday nights at 5:00pm

I am passionate about helping our kids build relationships with their faith community, and developing their sense of ownership and facilitating discipleship, for very young hearts! Join Kid's Check-in here:

greaternw.zoom.us/j/91487734446

Beers & Beliefs

Most Thursday nights

Details are posted in the group Facebook Page.

This group is open to people who want to be with other believers while sharing fun life adventures together. For more information contact Pastor Kate at pastor@ronaldumc.org to get you connected. :)



Ronald Commons Cafe Update

~ RCC Chefs

We are excited to announce that RCC will be returning to in-house dining at Ronald United Methodist Church, starting January 11, 2024.

As before, the meals will be served from 5:30 until 7:00pm (or the food runs out, whichever comes first). We look forward to having an opportunity to reconnect with one another!

However, this will require more volunteers.

It really helps us if folks sign up so we can assess in advance if we need to reach out to fill any slots. Here is a link (you can enter in your browser) to sign up to help out:

<https://signup.com/go/XBZkOzO>

(Jan 4 on break)

Jan 11

- Pulled pork on bun
- vegetarian BBQ sandwich
- Tater tots
- Salad
- Dessert

Jan 18

- Meatloaf
- Vegetarian meatloaf
- Cabbage and egg noodles
- Salad
- Dessert

Jan 25

- Pozole
- vegetarian pozole
- Hard rolls
- Salad
- Dessert

King County Regional Homelessness Authority Unsheltered Point-In-Time Count

Jan 22-Feb 2, Monday - Friday

3:00-7:00 in the Chapel

KCRHA is conducting an unsheltered count in January 2024. The count is required every-other-year by the US Dept of Housing & Urban Development. The PIT Count is an important tool to help track demographics and illuminate year-over-year trends for the region.

It would be EXCELLENT to have church members volunteer for a shift! All volunteers need to attend one of the hybrid training sessions the week of January 9.

[Apply by Jan 5](#)

Faith Action Network

February 8 is Interfaith Advocacy Day in

Olympia! [>> register](#) FAN's annual gathering of advocates brings your voice and concerns to the state Capitol. If you join us, you will be able to:

- Explore the issues on FAN's 2024 Legislative Agenda.
- Meet with advocates from your legislative district to prepare for your legislative visits.
- If you register by January 29, FAN will set up an appointment for you with your district's legislator.

WHAT IS HUMAN RELATIONS DAY?

Human Relations Day is a denomination wide Special Sunday, January 14, designed to celebrate and raise awareness to further the development of better human relations by involving congregations in community and youth outreach.

A special offering taken the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, gifts received build King's vision of "the beloved community" through programs such as Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Services and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs.

UMC.org/HRD



Hopelink Notes

~ Darol Reynolds

Thank you for the surplus cards, notepads, calendars, and decorations that you shared with our grateful clients.

The nonfood items that everyone has brought during Advent will be received with great joy by our neighbors. These are essentials that our clients struggle to provide for themselves.



Remember our Eliminating Racism Resource Center

This concise guide offers specific materials to enhance your understanding and engagement in anti-racism efforts, addressing complex issues like implicit bias, white privilege, and the historical context of racism.

greaternw.org/eliminating-racism

Jurisdiction United Women in Faith Quadrennial Event

May 9-11, 2024 | Anchorage, Alaska

Registration is now open! Please register at wjumw.com, where you will find detailed information on the hotel, Alaska Airlines discounts, schedules, and workshop opportunities. Hotel Captain Cook offers the option of adding three additional days before or after our gathering if you'd like to extend your stay and see more of Alaska.

We're excited about this chance to "Get Together" — pre-events start May 8, 2024. Our theme, "Get Together," is centered in John 13:34, and all the jurisdictions share it. The central purpose of this event is to elect women who will represent our jurisdiction as National Board of Director members. In addition, we will worship, celebrate, share, serve, learn, sing, pray and connect.

Christmas Cards, a gift of love

One of our traditions at Ronald is for members to make a donation to the church instead of mailing cards to members of our church family.

This year's donations support Riverton Park UMC

rivertonparkumc.com/migrant-arrival-support

“Jan Bolerjack is a pastor at the Riverton Park United Methodist Church in Tukwila, where roughly 180 to 200 migrants are currently taking shelter. She said there’s a lack of regional infrastructure to help asylum-seekers like them.”
(Gustavo Sagrero Alvarez, KUOW Oct 10, 2023)

Merry Christmas, Ronald family!

From:

- Marilyn & Dennis Reid
- Sandra & Darol Reynolds
- Marvin & Shallum Legaspi
- Larry & Arlene Anderson
- Julius & Zeldia Carbonell
- Stan & Audrey De Pano
- Bong & Beth Valbuena

You are invited to worship every Sunday at 10:45.
Join us in the Sanctuary, from your computer, or by phone.

Worship in-person:

All are welcome to worship with us in person. You can wear a mask if that helps you feel more comfortable, but they are no longer required.

We do ask you to stay home if you have any symptoms of illness.

Worship from home:

Zoom: Each week, the link is the same.

greaternw.zoom.us/j/867526399

YouTube: You can watch us live on YouTube, or if you miss us live, catch the recording on our YouTube page

<https://www.youtube.com/@RonaldUMC>

Listen in on your phone:

Listen in on any phone by dialing one of these numbers:

669-900-6833 | 253-215 8782 |

346-248-7799 | 646-876-9923.

When prompted, enter meeting ID: 867-526-399

Christmas Poinsettias dedications

Every year, we decorate the Sanctuary with poinsettias in anticipation of Christmas, and to remember, honor, and celebrate our loved ones.

Stan & Audrey De Pano:
In memory of Christine De Pano

Chita Jesalva:
In memory of parents: Phoebe & Teodoro Jesalva.

In memory of brother: Teodoro D. Jesalva Jr.

To honor Donna Carbonell – loyal friend & caregiver

Donna Carbonell:
In memory of Vincente & Ruth Carbonell
In honor of Zelda & Julius Carbonell

Marvin & Shallum Legaspi:
To honor Pastor & Audrey De Pano
To honor Darol & Sandra Reynolds

The Hogan Family:
In memory of Jerry Hogan & Donna Hogan
In memory of Hap & Janis Jones

Leo & Tal Cuanan:
In memory of Alvin Deo Cuanan

Daisy Marangco:
In memory of Bernie T. Sanoy and Grace T. Sanoy

Betty Hamlin:
To honor my nephews & nieces, all my grandchildren

Rolly & Cecile del Rosario:
In memory of our parents
To honor Pastor Kate, Pastor Pat, Pastor Stan

Beth Valbuena:
In honor of Pastor Stan, Pastor Pat,
Pastor Kate, Deb Cavinta, Erin Lovejoy-Guron

Lori & Sam Mina:
In honor of our mom, Rosie Johnson



Photo by Magda Ehlers:
pexels.com

Michael Brunson:

In honor of Baptist Pastor Orval B Taylor, who baptized me into the Christian faith at the age of 11 in 1960.

In memory of my parents, Perry Pelham Brunson 1909-1986 the printer, and Hertha Edna Brunson 1914-2008 farmgirl and millhand, later a victim of guardianship.

In memory of my maternal grandparents, Edward & Olga, German peasants from Russia.

In memory of my paternal grandparents, Wallace Brunson 1874-1963 & Vera Thompson VanBuskirk Brunson.

In memory of my great grandfather, Michael Brunson aka Bronson 1839-1917 who served in the Civil War to free the slaves.

In memory of grandpa Wallace's sister, my great aunt Mabel Bronson Hamre.

In memory of grandma Olga's younger sister, my great aunt Natalya Limert Huber.

In memory of my mother's 4 siblings: Clara, Herbert, Harold, and Frieda.

In memory of my father's 2 step-brothers: Allen VanBuskirk and Warren VanBuskirk.

In memory of my cousins: Chris VanBuskirk, Richard Hammermaster and Gene Hammermaster.

In memory of Bill Coleman who introduced my dad, Perry, to my mom, Hertha, at the Puyallup train depot in 1942.

In memory of my honorary aunt Laura Taft Hedlund (good friend of my mom) & my honorary uncle Art Hedlund.

In memory of my honorary aunt Marguerite Shell Hicks (good friend of my mom) & my honorary uncle Harvey Hicks.

In memory of my mother's best friend from their early adult years, Grace Ross Davis.

In memory of my mother's best friend from their decades as suburban neighbors, Irene Smith.

In memory of the friend who visited my mom most often during my mom's last weeks of living in her own home in 2006, Yvonne Benedict.

In memory of Janeen Cook, Milton Karr M.S.W., Ivan King, United Methodist Pastor George & Penny Poor, and many other friends and neighbors who wrote letters to guardianship court asking freedom for Hertha.

In memory of Ronald UMC member LaNita Wacker (1941-2022) who in 1999 was Hertha's most militant advocate against the guardian, and his attempts to force her back into a nursing home.

In memory of Jeanne Monger (1948-2023) who, with her husband, Larry Monger gave Hertha rides to local political meetings, even after Hertha was deprived of her right to vote by order of the guardianship court.

In memory of Joan Schultz and others from Rock of Hope who visited Hertha in the facility where Hertha was held captive unto death.

In memory of Julia Berg Thompson (1946-2015).

In memory of my honorary cousin Drew Hicks (1949-2023).



Photo by David Levinson: 10
pexels.com