



blaine memorial
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Beacon

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How can Blaine Memorial become a radically inclusive, diverse faith community?



Daikanreki
Video



We are Resurrection People



So what's next after Easter?



Sukiyaki 2023

Walk for Rice

What are we voting on?



Blaine Church members meet-and-greet with Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth. From (L-R): Sharon Maeda, Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth, Ron Nobuyama and Rev. Karen Yokota Love

News from our Senior Pastor

We are resurrection people!

By Rev. Karen Yokota Love, *Senior Pastor*

Hallelujah! Christ is risen. Hallelujah! Christ is risen, indeed!

I greet you with the miracle of Easter during this Eastertide season. I'm thrilled because Blaine Memorial's **Sukiyaki Take Out benefit ministry event** was an absolute success. After three years of being suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a great team of leadership resurrected Sukiyaki this year. Thank you for your generous support. This event can only be successful when folks like yourselves are willing to give your time, energy and commitment. Take a look at

Page 4 to see all of the fun.

To top that off, **Easter Sunday** at Blaine Memorial was magical this year. Our Blaine Youth Group (BYG) resurrected the Easter Breakfast! The BYG prepared and cooked a delicious Easter breakfast with all the fixings – scrambled eggs, mini sausages, fruit, cinnamon rolls, haupia, and so much more! The Worship Committee decorated the sanctuary on Holy Saturday. The altar was covered in lilies with white and gold touches. Joe Adriano, Steve Sofronas and Michael Corsilles carried in the flowered cross during

the processional which magnified the sanctuary. Our Church School Teachers and BYG filled and hid 300 Easter Eggs in the Social Hall and Kono Chapel for our children. Even though it rained all morning, Easter was still special with Christ's love surrounding us with breakfast, the flowering of the cross, a dynamic worship service and an Egg Hunt. Thank you for a special Easter, Blaine Memorial. Christ Is Risen, Indeed!

Speaking of eggs, our **Mother's Day Breakfast** is back! Join us as we honor the women and those who

identify as women at Blaine Memorial UMC on Sunday, May 14 from 8:45am-10am and then again, after worship. During this time, we will honor, remember, and show our love to our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, sisters, cousins, wives, teachers, mentors, and all the women in our lives that have influenced and shaped us into the people who we are today. We need all men of Blaine Memorial to prepare breakfast beginning at 6am. Thank you to Howard Nakase for chairing this year's Mother's Day breakfast!

May signals the



Members and friends of Blaine wrap the rice balls with anko. The rice balls were prepared the night before. Anko is a sweet red bean paste made from adzuki beans and sugar.

As we move towards Pentecost, which signifies the birthday of the church, may you feel and know the power of the Holy Spirit this season. - Rev. Karen

importance of **Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month**. On Sunday, May 21, we will celebrate our long-standing relationship with **Asian Counseling and Referral Services**. Executive Director Michael Byun will join us in our worship service and share stories with us about ACRS's long history with Blaine Memorial. ACRS promotes social justice and the well-being and empowerment of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other underserved communities – including immigrants,

refugees, and American-born – by developing, providing, and advocating for innovative, effective, and efficient community-based multilingual and multicultural services. We'll also hear from Audrey Hwang and Justine Ing about the upcoming Walk for Rice event in June.

Also on Sunday, May 21, we will take a straw poll after worship. This poll is to identify if we can become a reconciling congregation. It will also give us an opportunity to measure our progress and to discuss further scripture texts, intentionally facilitate dialogue, and answer

any questions that one might have to become a reconciling congregation. Please look at Page 12, where Lynne Onishi discusses the process more in depth.

Earlier last month, I had the honor of meeting our new **Greater Northwest Resident Area Bishop, Cedrick D. Bridgeforth** at a Meet-and-Greet with the SeaTac District. We also had the chance to meet his spouse, Christopher.

Bishop Cedrick expressed his great passion with a wide range of social justice issues, including restorative justice, homelessness, and hunger. He articulated

in his sermon that one of his goals while he serves the Greater Northwest Area is to eradicate racism and discrimination of all kinds. I look forward to Bishop Cedrick's leadership and where he will take this conference with his vision and innovative ideas.

As we move towards Pentecost, which signifies the birthday of the church, may you feel and know the power of the Holy Spirit this season. May you celebrate and be renewed with God's Spirit. May you use this time of deep reflection and a renewal of faith. May God be with you. Blessings to you during this season! 🌈



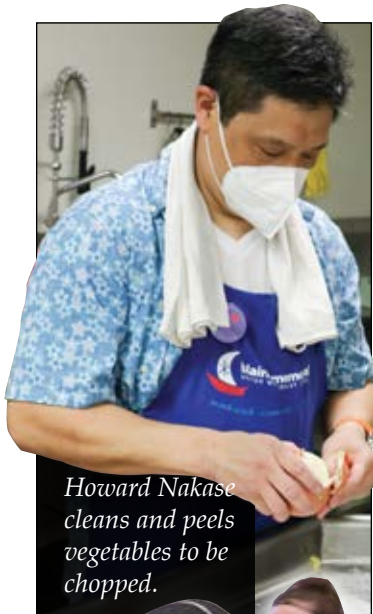
David Hayasaka, Jim Mano, and Rick Mano pour out Saifun noodles. The Saifun noodles are an important ingredient for Sukiyaki.

SUKIYAKI



By Rev. Karen Yokota Love, photos by Ryan Kozu and Kai Yamamoto

Thank you, Blaine Memorial, for making this year's Sukiyaki Take Out fundraiser a huge success! The entire community came out to help, cook, set-up, bake, clean, and make this year's event memorable, exciting and meaningful. This was the first year we had Sukiyaki in three years. Thank you for your commitment to the Blaine Memorial UMC community! A portion of our earnings will benefit the Rainier Valley Food Bank. We look forward to preparing more activities and opportunities to bring our community back to Blaine for fellowship and to connect with the greater neighborhood. Enjoy photos from this year's Sukiyaki event! 🇺🇸



Howard Nakase cleans and peels vegetables to be chopped.



Many Blaine volunteers fill the uncooked Sukiyaki orders so that each dish is proportionally equal.



(L-R): Carol Okano and Pam Ikegami cut tofu



(L-R): Miriam Tong, Stephanie Nishida and Barbara Kanaya cook the beef before merging it with the vegetables and Sukiyaki broth.



(Top right) Volunteers count each of the uncooked Sukiyaki servings. (Above) Eugene Onishi and Kobe Yamamoto transfer cooked Sukiyaki into a different pan, as they get ready to package Sukiyaki orders. How much sukiyaki did you order?



Justine, Lily, and Terry Adolfo sell baked goods to our community members. Some of the baked goods included cakes, cookies, bake mochi, manju, brownies, chi-chi dango, and ohagi.



(Above) Tala and Marisa happily sell baked goods to customers.



(Left) Jill Fluvog, Margaret Inouye and Donna Sekijima put different varieties of mochi and manju to make assorted packages to sell. This was sold at the Bakery and sold out within the first hour after opening at 2pm.



Last year, Team Blaine raised over \$8,300 to help support local food banks with a special focus on the Asian Community. Now is the time to help! Reach out to Justine or Audrey Hwang for more details!

Support Walk for Rice Now! By Justine, photos by Audrey Hwang

The 33rd annual ACRS Walk for Rice will be on June 17, 2023 at Seward Park!

Blaine Memorial UMC has a special connection to the Asian Counseling and Referral Service Walk for Rice. In 1990, Sam Mitsui, with Herb and Bertha Tsuchiya, wanted a way for everyone to help feed the community. Team Blaine continues to honor Mitsui's contribution through the Walk for Rice, commemorating 33 years of service.

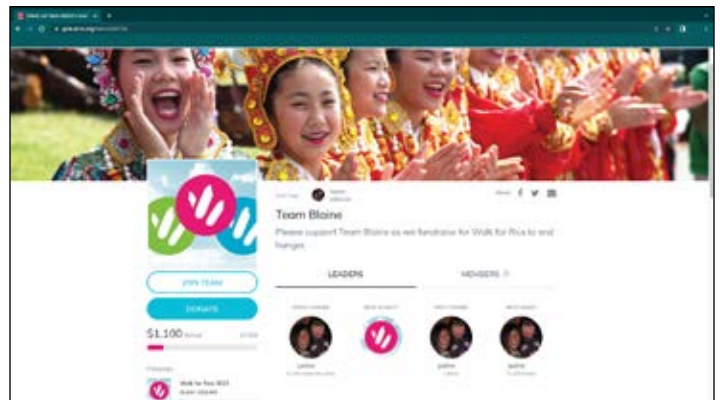
This year's Walk for Rice will be in-person at Seward Park on Saturday, June 17, 2023! We need you!

The ACRS Food Bank remains one of the busiest food banks in King County, distributing more than 1 million pounds of food annually to 5,700 clients. More than half are children under the age of 18 or seniors over 65, and many people served by the ACRS

Food Bank are low-income. Proceeds from the Walk for Rice allow ACRS to buy many of the culturally familiar foods that its Asian clients rely on: tofu, noodles, and produce like bok choy. Don't forget, rice!

Last year, Team Blaine raised over \$8,300, which put us in third place! This year, ACRS hopes to raise \$325,000 and Team Blaine's fundraising goal is \$7,000. You can also support us by joining Blaine Memorial at Seward Park on June 17th at the Walk for Rice celebration!

Go to: <https://give.acrs.org/team/498138> (or scan the QR code, far right) to donate online or join our team as a walker! You can also mail your donation (checks made out to "Walk for Rice", memo: "Team



If you would like to make a donation to the ACRS Walk for Rice on behalf of Team Blaine, scan the QR code below to donate!

Blaine") to the Blaine office.

Thank you in advance for supporting ACRS Food Bank - every dollar counts! 🍌

Justine serves as Team Captain for the ACRS Walk for Rice, representing Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church.



Gentle Reminders

Apply for Educational Scholarships 2023!

By Michelle Vaughan



Application period is now open, May 17, 2023 is the deadline for Scholarships!

The Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church Educational Scholarships are designed to support the mission of the church through supporting a multitude of educational opportunities.

We are proud to have helped students in their pursuit of continuing education since 1968. We encourage all applicants; from those just entering their next phase of education to those returning to complete or pursue continued education.

We are blessed to offer the following scholarships: the Vera Ing Scholarship, Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church Scholarship, Yasuda Scholarship, William S. Yorozu Scholarship, and the Robert S. Sato Scholarship. 🇺🇸



Scan the QR code to visit blaineonline.org for more information.

Submit recipes for BMUMC's cookbook!

By Marina Furuta

*Your favorite recipes and stories are needed for our new cookbook!
Send in your submissions by May 31, 2023!*



Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church will release a 120th Anniversary Edition of "Let's Dine!", the latest in a series of cookbooks produced by Blaine Memorial over the past 70 years.

This cookbook will commemorate the 120th Anniversary of Blaine Memorial, with a scheduled release of January 2024. We are seeking submissions for the 2024 cookbook and are calling on you to contribute! 🇺🇸

Scan the QR code to visit blaineonline.org for more information.



Making a Scene with Stephen Sumida

By Jesse N. Love with Dr. Stephen Sumida, photos by Ryan Koza



Dr. Stephen Sumida (second left) guides participants during the filming of a reenactment of the removal of Japanese Americans in Seattle held at Blaine Memorial. The video in progress will be part of a larger documentary on this event that shaped the lives and ministry of Blaine Memorial UMC.



Scan this QR code to view a video interview with Dr. Stephen Sumida on the goals for this video project and why it is important for the community of Blaine Memorial UMC.

From the beginning of 2023, Dr. Stephen Sumida with Blaine members Shig Nishida and others have been working on a special video project for Blaine's 120th anniversary depicting an unjust moment in US American history: a reenactment of the removal of Japanese Americans from Seattle's Japantown in April 1942.

Working with our congregation and its tech crew, Sumida helped gather the congregation of Blaine as extras. Dressed in 1940s costume, our church is preparing vignettes of the lives deeply affected by internment. This project brought to life in modern times people like Henry Itoi and Minnie Yokoyama (portrayed by Jarrett Shirouzu and Lynne Onishi, respectively), an engaged couple in the middle of this massive removal working to capture one last moment before treading into an unknown future. Others such as Ada Mahon, Revs. Everett Thompson & Emery Andrews, Mr. E.L. Blaine, are historic figures who came to bear witness of this tragic event also portrayed by Blaine Memorial members.

Sumida guided Blaine's tech teams to document behind-the-scenes footage. With help from Jesse N. Love and Glenn Mitsui, Sumida shares in this interview his goal of connecting the audience through humor and sadness in order to process this moment in history. This reenactment is a short, but important part, of an upcoming hour-long documentary scheduled for Blaine Memorial's 120th Anniversary.

Video projects such as this are not just our Archives Committee but serve as a detrimental part of telling Blaine Memorial's origins. By remembering the past, we can ensure the future of Blaine Memorial UMC internalizes the history of its culture and faith.

Special thanks to Glenn Mitsui for preparing this video presentation of Dr. Stephen Sumida. Also, special thanks to the leadership of the Rev. David V. Valera and the Pacific Northwest Conference for supporting this project. You can view Sumida's interview video on blaineonline.org or scan the QR code. 🇺🇸



The Rev. Karen Yokota Love presents a Reconciling Ministry Moment during Sunday Worship.

Senior Pastor's Spiritual Reflection

Pentecost: The Gift of Diversity

By Rev. Karen Yokota Love, Senior Pastor

“When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.” Acts 2:1-4

In Acts 2, the disciples are huddled in the upper room. First, there is wind and fire. Then the disciples speak about Jesus, and the author Luke writes, “When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: ‘Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?’”

Pentecost becomes an affirmation of God’s gift of diversity. Luke makes a point of listing all the places that the people had come from to be in Jerusalem. There were many different people from many different places speaking many different languages. Pentecost is a celebration of unity in diversity. Diversity can be difficult. The people of

Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church began conversations around LGBTQIA+ inclusion in July 2022. This is an ongoing process of prayer, learning, discernment, and conversation. The process will culminate with a congregational decision. Disaffiliation, or leaving the United Methodist Church as a denomination, has not been a part of these discussions. There is no intention of leaving the UMC. We continue to discuss what this outcome looks like for Blaine Memorial UMC and how this helps us be a more loving community. We might not always understand one another and there might be miscommunication. Social queues could be misinterpreted. Sometimes, understanding one another more effectively or efficiently can be frustrating.

However, the “birth” of the church is more than simply understanding one another more effectively or efficiently. The reign of God depends on diversity. The more we can widen and deepen our awareness of where the holy is at work among us, the more possibilities become reality for the peaceable kin-dom to come near.

Sometimes this work of deepening understanding and stretching our perceptions is the opposite of efficient. But it is worth the effort because we are talking about the dream of our hearts, initiated and fulfilled by our God. Sometimes we are tempted to confuse our own experience of “normal” with being faithful.

The Pentecost experience reminds us that God always is willing to break up and expand our perception of the norm to welcome

every blessed variety of God’s beloved creation. The more we can hear, see, and experience the Spirit at work in the incredible diversity of our world, the more we receive the deep invitation to full life in Christ.

We are re-centered in God’s love as the ultimate “norm” for all life, and we begin to see the world anew. When we truly are baptized into Christ, we become a part of a new creation.

Every Pentecost is the re-birth of the church anew into a particular time and place and context, each with its own joys and sorrows. The visible manifestation of the Holy Spirit in Pentecost today may be very similar to the first Pentecost: reaching across boundaries to understand those who live differently, speak differently, experience reality differently. Our Spirit-given diversity challenges singular and dominating forms of power that dehumanize, and that ignore the breath of divine life, the Holy Spirit, who dwells in all creation, in every human being. This gift offers us countless and bold ways to build communion and inclusive community where diversity breathes life. Pentecost then is not so much the birth of the church, but a snapshot of the church in action through the power of the Holy Spirit: where diversity is chosen over division, where dialogue is chosen over conflict, and where all are cared for, not just the people of our tribe or clan. Pentecost screams the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ: all are invited and all are welcome here. May it be so. 🌈



The Rev. Mia MiKyung Park leads Blaine Memorial UMC in prayer during Sunday Worship.

Associate Pastor's Spiritual Reflection

Grounded in faith, trusting in God

By Rev. Mia MiKyung Park

One of my reflective practices is to write a letter to my future self, expressing my hopes and prayers for myself. This practice has proven to be beneficial to me in many ways. Not only does it encourage and support me, but it also helps me view my situations and myself from a more objective perspective. When I write this letter, I imagine myself as one of my friends or neighbors and pour out my thoughts, encouragement, affirmation, and suggestions. Over time, I have accumulated many letters from myself that not only inspire and uplift me, but also provide moments of chuckles as the situations often turn out differently than I had anticipated.

Recently, I came across a letter I had written to myself about 20 years ago while on a plane during my very first trip to the U.S. I could feel the nervousness and anxiety I had experienced about flying into a place with an uncertain future. I remember vividly how my thoughts were wandering around without any rational connections, and I couldn't sleep for the entire 10-hour flight. In the letter, I talked to myself in Korean, acknowledging my worries about my baggage, how to contact John if he wasn't there to receive me, and the stress about John's seminary acceptance and possibly moving in the near future. However, I reminded myself that God, who had led me on this journey of living in a foreign country, was already there to provide everything I needed. I also expressed my

hope that I would get a chance for further education in the U.S. before returning to Korea.

Although the letter doesn't apply exactly to my current situation, its message of grounding myself in faith and trusting in God still resonates deeply with me.

As I write this article, I am filled with both excitement and nervousness about my family's upcoming visit in June. My mother, three older sisters, and one brother-in-law will be visiting me for the first time, and I am grateful for this opportunity. However, I also feel anxious about the logistics of their trip, particularly since my ordination service will take place in Meridian, Idaho on Sunday, June 11th. They will arrive in Seattle on June 5th, and John and I are prayerfully and carefully planning the trip with my family from Korea to Idaho and back to Seattle. After my family's visit, our Jr. High campers will leave for camp, and in July, we will have Vacation Bible School for our children from July 10th-14th, from 10 am-3 pm. Additionally, our high schoolers will attend Asian Camp from July 23rd-28th. These are just a few of the events scheduled for my family and church.

I am praying for strength, guidance, and wisdom to make this spring and summer amazing. I already know that God will continue to deepen my faith and trust during this time, even when things sometimes turn out differently than what I anticipated. As I continue to write letters to myself, I hope to be able to look back on them with fondness and gratitude for how God has guided me through my journey. Philippians 4:6-7 reminds us, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

I am also excited to share that the Church School in May will be memorizing the Lord's Prayer, so I ask the families to support our children to memorize the Lord's Prayer at home as well.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Church School teachers, BYG leadership, and the entire congregation for your dedication and commitment to our ministries. May will be an amazing month, and I look forward to experiencing it together. 🇺🇸

Rev. Mia MiKyung Park serves as the Associate Pastor of Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church.



Scan the QR Code
"Coram Deo: In the
presence of God"
By Rev. Mia
MiKyung Park

Spiritual Formation Center

So what's next after Holy Week?

By Anne Arakaki-Lock, photo courtesy of Wikipedia

The disciples experienced Jesus' triumphant Palm Sunday entry into Jerusalem, their Last Supper together, his betrayal and agonizing crucifixion, the darkness when he was in the tomb, and his resurrection on Easter Sunday. But what happened after that?

For 40 days before he went to heaven, I love how Jesus hung out with his disciple friends after his resurrection. Scriptures say they went fishing. They ate. He promised them that they would be getting a gift of the Holy Spirit, the Counselor who would comfort them and guide them as he commanded them to share his story with others:

- "... you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." - John 14:18.
- "... the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." - John 14:26.

So, after Jesus's ascension, we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus's disciples and other followers, marking the birth of the Church. At Pentecost, 50 days from Easter, we see God's promise fulfilled. The disciples (learners) became apostles (messengers), filled with the Holy Spirit. So now, they were not as much supposed to show people what they could do for God, but what God



(Top left) This beautiful Missal made from parchment originates from East Anglia. It is considered a very important manuscript as it is one of the earliest examples of a Missal of an English source. Sarum Missals were books produced by the Church during the Middle Ages for celebrating Mass throughout the year. Photo courtesy: National Library of Wales. (Top right) A fresco at the Karlskirche in Vienna (by Johann Michael Rottmayr)

had done for them:

- "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit" - Acts 2:1-4.

Has the Holy Spirit descended on you and have you accepted this priceless gift from God? 🕊️

Anne Arakaki-Lock serves as a member of Blaine Memorial's Congregational Care Ministry.

Lectionary Readings

Fifth Sunday of Easter May 7, 2023	Sixth Sunday of Easter May 14, 2023	Ascension of the Lord May 18, 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts 7:55-60 • Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 • 1 Peter 2:2-10 • John 14:1-14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts 17:22-31 • Psalm 66:8-20 • 1 Peter 3:13-22 • John 14:15-21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts 1:1-11 • Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 • Ephesians 1:15-23 • Luke 24:44-53
Seventh Sunday of Easter May 21, 2023	Day of Pentecost May 28, 2023	Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth May 31, 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts 1:6-14 • Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 • 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 • John 17:1-11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30 • Psalm 104:24-34, 35b • 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 • John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Samuel 2:1-10 • Psalm 113 • Romans 12:9-16b • Luke 1:39-57

Innovation Hub Update



A Radical Love for the World

Happy Spring from the Innovation Hub team! We've had an exciting month of ministry together.

The young adults recently engaged in some friendly competition while playing a lively game of whirlyball (see photo). This young adult activity group is hoping to venture back outdoors for some beautiful Spring and Summer hikes. Please stay tuned for updates!

We also recently wrapped up a short Bible Study series that helped us to examine what it means to be faithful to scripture and inclusive of all people. We discussed different modes of Biblical interpretation and then looked at texts that have been used as weapons against LGBTQIA+ folks. It was quite an intellectual, spiritual, and emotional journey as we learned about cultural and historical contexts, church tradition, the difficulties around translation of Biblical texts, and our own unique

By Lynne Onishi, B.Y.G. Director

relationships to the Bible.

Reconciling Ministries Q and A:

We are bringing back our Reconciling Ministries Q and A series this month! In previous newsletter articles, we explained what the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) is, and we shared updates about our reconciling process at Blaine Memorial thus far.

Q: What are we voting on? What is the Reconciling Statement?

A: Churches join the RMN by voting to adopt a reconciling statement, which must receive support from 75% of the congregation.

This statement is a declaration to both one another and the public that our congregation is committed to inclusivity and justice. Before we take a final vote, we will take a closer look at the Reconciling Statement:

We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded

by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.

As you read this statement, what questions or reflections are you having? What makes sense to you?

What seems confusing? How might

Blaine Memorial commit to this vision of a radically inclusive and diverse faith community? We hope that you take the time to engage in conversation with one another and discuss how this reconciling statement fits with our mission and ministries at Blaine Memorial UMC.

By voting to adopt this statement, we are pledging to live out a life of faith that aligns with Jesus's radical love for the world. We are excited to be going on this journey as a community!

The IH team and RM Task Force are always looking for new folks to join us. If you feel called to lend your voice to these important ministries, we invite you to join us at our next team zoom meeting. Please contact Lynne or any of the other team members for more information. 🌈

Contact Lynne Onishi with questions about the Innovation Hub team or Reconciling Ministries, lynneonishi@gmail.com



Scan the QR Code
"Listen, Discern,
and Dream"

By Lynne Onishi

Special Offerings

The following gifts are in memory of loved ones who have passed, honored people and services and celebrated ministries for March 2023. These gifts enable Blaine Memorial UMC to grow ministries and engage in vital outreach and missional work. All special offerings are welcomed and appreciated; specify a ministry or fund you would like to support. Unspecified funds will be added to BMUMC's General Fund.

In Appreciation

In Appreciation of Gym Usage/ Pickleball Ministry:

- Anonymous Donors

In Appreciation of Copier Usage:

- Blaine Ukulele Group Seattle

In Appreciation of the Creative work of Shig Nishida:

- Mike & Marcia Takahashi

Donations

Yasuda Scholarship Fund (In Celebration of Kate Guion's engagement):

- Roxanne & Eric Guion

Special Offering: UMCOR for Turkey/Syria Disaster Relief:

- Barbara & Dick Nagaoka
- Cal & Lorraine Hoshibata
- Carol Okano
- Dorothy Rutherford
- Jerry & Pam Ikegami
- Jill Fluvog
- Joe & Terri Adolfo
- Keiko Yanagihara
- Ken Ronan & Debbie Hisayasu
- Kenji Onishi
- Michiko Ono
- Norm & Dale Kaneko
- Rev. Karen Yokota Love & Jesse Love
- Rev. Mark Hearn & Rev. Jeney Park-Hearn
- Satoshi & Pearl Yamamoto
- Setsuko Nakata
- Sharon Maeda

- Shig & Rae Nishida
- Steve & Yuki Sofronas
- Steve Lock & Anne Arakaki-Lock
- Steve Sumida & Gail Nomura
- Sylvia Wong
- Teresa Yagi
- Tom & Janet Kometani

Youth Fund:

- Anonymous Donors
- Jonathan & Miriam Tong
- Michael Corsilles & Eunice Gong

Holiday Offering

Christmas Offering:

- Dr. Yugo & Elizabeth Suzuki

Easter Offering:

- Steve & Karen Kozu

In Memoriam

In Memory of Art Yorozu:

- Norm & Dale Kaneko
- Steve & Karen Kozu

In Memory of Atsu Sato:

- Suma Yagi

In Memory of Betty Sonoda:

- Bob & Donna Sekijima
- Carol Okano
- Harvey & Julie Kanemoto
- Jill Fluvog
- Margaret Inouye
- Sally Sekijima

In Memory of Bob Watanabe:

- Arlene Naganawa
- Brad & Gayle Miyake
- Cal & Lorraine Hoshibata
- Carol Okano
- Cho & Sharonne Shimizu
- Gloria Ishizu
- Jerry & Pam Ikegami
- Jill Fluvog
- Kenji Onishi
- Lisa Mar & John Hodge
- Michael & Elaine Chin
- Michiko Ono
- Roxanne & Eric Guion
- Satoshi & Pearl Yamamoto
- Thom & Bev Ikeda

In Memory of Christine Yada:

- Barbara & Dick Nagaoka
- Bob & Donna Sekijima
- Cal & Lorraine Hoshibata

- Deanna Wong
- Kara & Dean Kurushima
- Kenji Onishi
- Larry Blackstock & Lori Matsukawa
- Lisa Mar & John Hodge
- Michael & Elaine Chin
- Sally Sekijima
- Satoshi & Pearl Yamamoto
- Steve Lock & Anne Arakaki-Lock
- Taryn Chin

In Memory of George Kaminishi:

- Amy Myoraku
- Barbara & Dick Nagaoka
- Bob & Donna Sekijima
- Cal & Lorraine Hoshibata
- Carol Okano
- Haruko Nagaishi
- Les Dogen
- Michiko Ono
- Mike & Marion Fukuma
- Norm & Dale Kaneko
- Sally Sekijima
- Thom & Bev Ikeda

In Memory of Kathleen Murakami:

- Harvey & Julie Kanemoto

In Memory of Kiyo Toda:

- Satoshi & Pearl Yamamoto

In Memory of Masa Hirano:

- Barbara & Dick Nagaoka
- Bob & Donna Sekijima
- Cal & Lorraine Hoshibata
- Fay Tanagi
- Michiko Ono
- Norm & Dale Kaneko
- Roxanne & Eric Guion
- Satoshi & Pearl Yamamoto
- Thom & Bev Ikeda
- Tom & Janet Kometani

In Memory of Nobi Otsuji:

- Barbara & Dick Nagaoka
- Carol Okano
- Satoshi & Pearl Yamamoto

In Memory of Tomiko Nakama:

- Barbara & Dick Nagaoka

In Memory of Tak Chikamura:


- Sumi Ikeda

In Memory of Ted Nakanishi:

- Suma Yagi 🇵🇭

May 2023

Events on this calendar may have changed during time of publication. Contact the Blaine Office for questions. The Church Office is open Tuesday-Friday (10am-4pm, 1pm-4pm). If you have questions, please call 206-723-1536 or email blaineoffice@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter articles due! • 10am, Zoom Yoga • 11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga • 7:30 pm, Zoom B.Y.G. Leaders Meeting 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 pm, Choir Rehearsal 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am, Pickleball • 6:30pm, SPRC Zoom Meeting • 8:00pm Zoom Church School Meeting 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele • 7pm, Blaine Basketball 	5 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:45am, CCM Meeting
7 Communion Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, In-Person & Online Worship • 10am, Church School Gathering • 1pm, Blaine Basketball 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, Zoom Yoga • 11am, Memorial Service • 11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga • 7:30 pm, Zoom B.Y.G. Leaders Meeting 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am Pickleball • 8pm Zoom Church School Meeting 	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele • 7pm, Blaine Basketball 	12 	13
14  Mother's Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:45am & 11:30am, Mother's Day Breakfast • 10am, In-Person & Online Worship • 10am, B.Y.G. Gathering • 10am, Church School Gathering • 1pm, Blaine Basketball 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, Zoom Yoga • 11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga • 7:30 pm, Zoom B.Y.G. Leaders Meeting 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am Pickleball • 6pm SASC Meeting • 8pm Zoom Church School Meeting • 9am-5pm, Board of Ordained Ministries Meeting 	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele • 7pm, Blaine Basketball 	19 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00am-3:00pm, Private Memorial Service (Sanctuary and Social Hall)
21 ACRS Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, In-Person & Online Worship • 10am, B.Y.G. Gathering • 10am, Church School Gathering • 10am, Straw Poll after Worship • 11:30am, VBS Volunteer Meeting • 1pm, Blaine Basketball 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, Zoom Yoga • 11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga • 7:30 pm, Zoom B.Y.G. Leaders Meeting 	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal 	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am Pickleball • 7pm, Ad-Board Meeting • 8pm Zoom Church School Meeting 	25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele • 7pm, Blaine Basketball 	26 	27
28 Pentecost <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, In-Person & Online Worship • 10am, B.Y.G. Gathering • 10am, Church School Gathering • 1pm, Blaine Basketball 	29  Memorial Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, 98th Annual NVC Memorial Day Service @ Lake View Cemetery 	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal 	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am Pickleball • 8pm Zoom Church School Meeting 	Save the dates for events in June: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 4: Graduation Sunday • June 17: ACRS Walk For Rice • June 18: Father's Day Lunch 🍷 		



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

As a Church and people who believe in the power of prayer, let us continue to lift up these persons in the joys and concerns that they are experiencing in their lives.

Those mourning the passing of loved ones

- **Miyeko Mochizuki**, 96, passed away peacefully at Seattle's Nikkei Manor on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023. She is survived by her children, James (Susan), Ken, and Alan (Stacey); grandchildren Aaron (Karyn), Nathan (Elaine), Tyler and Sydney; and two great-granddaughters. She was predeceased by her parents, Shigematsu and Asao Nakano, sister Lilly Chiyeko Nakano, husband Eugene and daughter-in-law Merry Mochizuki. A private memorial service will be held at a future date.
- **Bob K. Watanabe**, 98, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at his home in Bellevue, WA. He is survived by his children, Linda Watanabe, Paul Watanabe (Diane), Donna Sekijima (Bob) and Susan Bryant (Chuck); seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Bob enjoyed bowling, clam digging and hunting for Matsutake mushrooms. He loved his family with all of his heart. A private memorial service will be held at a future date at Blaine Memorial UMC.
- **Christine Joy Yada**, 73, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 10, 2023. She is survived by her husband, Jeff, children, Jason and Shelley, sister, Julie Tanagi Lock, and sister-in-law, Gail Yada Hikida. Christine enjoyed shopping, reading, going to Hawai'i, and loved cooking and feeding her family and friends. A private burial service was held at Evergreen Washelli on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. A public memorial service was held on April 15, 2023 at Blaine Memorial UMC.
- **Masa Hirano**, 101, passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 25, 2023 at her home in Clyde Hill, WA. She is survived by her daughter, Carrie Dodobara (Gary); three grandchildren: Steve Dodobara (Mindy), David Dodobara (Rajae Chbihi), Lisa Simpson (Mike); and seven great-grandchildren: Kenji, Cash, Ryan, Samya, Emma, Gunnar and Decker. Masa enjoyed activities with her seven great-grandchildren and loved the fellowship with the Tuesday Ladies for many years. A private memorial service will be held at Evergreen Washelli in the near future.

Those experiencing health concerns

- **Emi K.**, daughter of Jackie and Chris and granddaughter of Lisa Mar and John Hodge. Emi is currently in her fourth round of chemotherapy.

Those in cancer treatment or remission

- **Quy Phi • Nikki Palmer • Linda Perry • Doris Fraley • KT Aegerter • Chuck Sitkin • Dean Tsuchida**

Those in nursing homes or care facilities

- **Dorothy Akiyama**

Those with health concerns, Recovery

- **Connie Sekijima • Greg Ogata • Tami Mitsui • Wyman Martin • Marcia Takahashi • Jim Roney • Rev. Shigeharu Ago • Suma Yagi**

Celebrations

- Thank you to **every person** who helped to make our **Sukiyaki Take Out** event successful and special! Thank you for taking the week to prepare, cook, clean, wash, create, call, email and to bring back the Blaine energy to our neighbors and our friends in the community.
- Thank you to **every person** who helped clean the church campus in April. Thank you for trimming the trees and for pruning our bushes, amongst many other tasks involved. Thank you for each person who cleaned our sanctuary and various interior areas. Thank you to the people who cleaned out our air purifiers. Our church looks better because of you!
- Congratulations to all who are celebrating **May birthdays and anniversaries!**

For our United Methodist Church:

- We continue to pray for the safety of our **LGBTQIA+ siblings** and for a just, inclusive future within The United Methodist Church. We pray that we are guided by love and the hope for a world where all people are celebrated and loved, where their rights are secured and where their sexual and gender diversity is valued.

For our community, nation, and world:

- Prayers for each of the **victims, people, families and friends** in Allen, TX. We pray for peace in our country. We bring before you all the men, women and children who were innocent victims of this mass shooting. May God hear our loving petitions and soften the hearts and minds of all. 🌈

Change service requested

May 2023

Connect with Blaine!

(206) 723-1536 • blaineonline.org • blaineoffice@yahoo.com • Instagram: @blaineumc • onrealm.org/BlaineMemorial



All are welcome here!

Our core belief is that each person is a beloved child of God - whose giftedness we value and whose presence and participation are a blessing to our community, and to the Kin-dom of God in the world.

Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church affirms our core value of Radical Hospitality, and as a community, we are an inclusive Church that welcomes and extends every part of its ministry to all persons regardless of race, ethnicity, income, age, generation, political affiliation, theological stance, sexual orientation or gender identity.



Ministry Staff Team

Senior Pastor, Editor
Associate Pastor
Choir Director
Church School Superintendent
B.Y.G. Director
Associate Directors

Pianist
Office Assistant
Bookkeeper

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Rev. Mia MiKyung Park
Eugene Onishi
Sai Hanaoka
Lynne Onishi
Kai Yamamoto
Kaylee Yokoyama
Kathy Onishi
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Mimi Mar

Lay Leadership Team

Administrative Board
Ad-Board Vice-Chair
Staff Parish Relations
SPRC Vice-Chair
Board of Trustees
Finance Committee
Lay Leaders
Annual Conference Delegates

Brad Miyake
Lisa Mar
Sally Sekijima
Arlene Naganawa
Ron Nobuyama, Brian Okura
Bob Sekijima, Gayle Miyake
Eugene Onishi, Kathy Onishi
Ron Nobuyama, George Yates



Ways to Give "Every person must bring a gift in proportion to God's blessings upon you." (Deut. 16: 17)

- **ONLINE:** Click the Realm logo at blaineonline.org or scan the QR code on the left.
- **MOBILE:** Download the free "Realm Connect" app. Use your sign-in and click GIVING. Contact the Church Office, blaineoffice@yahoo.com. for a Realm sign-in.
- **TEXT:** Text BLAINE to 73256. Click the link you receive and follow the prompts.
- **MAIL:** Mail a check to: Blaine Memorial UMC at 3001 24th Ave S. Seattle, WA 98144.

