



blaine memorial  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Oct./Nov. 2023  
Vol. 44 | #9

# Beacon

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Spiritual Formation Center

## Sowing Generously for Maui



Blaine Memorial's

**Innovation Hub**  
Blaine Memorial's young adults hiked at Lake Twenty-Two and enjoyed spectacular views! Read more on page 6!

# Vibes

of AUTUMN

Bishop Cedrick

# Peace *is our* work





Retired Bishop Roy I. Sano and Rev. Karen at the NJAUMC Clergy Gathering in Burlingame, CA.

## News from our Senior Pastor

# Signs of autumn signal celebrations

By Rev. Karen Yokota Love, additional photos by Jesse N. Love and Kai Yamamoto

**T**he days are getting shorter and it's getting dark earlier. Red leaves are piling up and for me, it is a reminder that Autumn has many signs and signals. There is a shift of the changing of the seasons. The year is wrapping up and I wonder where the time went – how are we in October already? As I watch the leaves fall, it urges me to let go of the busyness and the burdens that I carry. The urge is affirmed, especially now that the Bazaar is over.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's **Blaine Benefit Bazaar** a huge success! We had a whole lot of fun, didn't we? I appreciate you making the effort to come to our Benefit

Bazaar which helped raise funds for **Maui Relief and Recovery through United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**.

Because of you and your unwavering commitment to our faith community, we had an amazing turnout. The donations continue to come in. Your attendance and active support played an important role in our Bazaar's success — thank you and thank you, evermore. Your generosity and support are encouraging reminders of why Blaine Memorial resurrected the Bazaar in the first place ... to help our Lahaina, Maui siblings. Through your support to UMCOR, you are providing food, water, hygiene items and tools to

help survivors recover their belongings in the town of Lahaina (and in other neighborhoods) on Maui. Thank you for your prayers and for your support for the people of Maui in the aftermath of the wildfires.

Last month, I gathered with members of the **National Japanese American United Methodist Caucus (NJAUMC)**. We met at the Mercy Center in Burlingame, CA. Clergy from our sister churches from Wesley UMC (San Jose), Faith UMC (Torrance, CA), UJCC (Fresno, CA), and many other churches, came together for the first time in person since the 2019 NJAUMC Clergy and Laity Convocation. Our goal was

to see each other, discuss opportunities and resources available to support one another in ministry, dialogue about the changing landscape in our churches, and tend to our needs for care in a post-pandemic world. We discussed the joys and struggles of the historical Japanese American UM churches, lifted up those who have retired and have been ordained, and remembered our siblings who have gone before us. We received updates from Camping Ministries, Japanese Language ministries, and the state of the greater church across the country. More importantly, we came together in Word and in prayer.

Retired Cal-Pac West DS Rev. Mark Nakagawa provided a compelling sermon about our saints who have passed away during the pandemic.

I provided a message based on Isaiah 43 about something new, filled with life, springing forth in the middle of a wasteland of the desert. I asked,

*"What does new life in our historical Japanese American churches look like and what contributes to that movement as we look to the future?"*

Aldersgate UMC (Palo Alto, CA) pastor, Rev. Dr. Sungrae Kim, provided Holy Communion in both English and Korean on our last day together.

Life seems as though we are walking through a dry desert. Earlier this month, the world awoke to news of a deadly attack on Israel by a Palestinian militant group, Hamas. Escalating violence has killed or injured thousands and an unknown number

have been abducted — reportedly including the elderly, women, and children. I ask for prayers for those who have lost family members and livelihoods, the injured, for those who perpetuate violence and for World Leaders that they may work for peace, the churches, and all religious leaders and for those who work for peace in the region. The situation is complicated, and it's important to recognize the fear and sense of injustice that is felt, but it's essential to call on both sides not to resort to further violence and to engage in negotiation to establish a peaceful solution for all who live in the Holy Land.

Autumn signals that the time has arrived for this year's **Reconciling Ministries Vote**. For the past few years, Innovation Hub Convener Lynne Onishi and the Reconciling Ministries Task Force led our faith community in thought-provoking conversations, documentaries, small group discussions, online Bible Study classes, and provided safe spaces to discuss what it means for Blaine Memorial UMC to become a Reconciling Ministries Church. *The time has arrived to cast your vote!* Here is the statement that our church will be voting on after worship on Sunday, November 5, 2023:

*"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*



(L-R): BYG's prized Suno Dog sells well at the Bazaar. Lori Matsukawa helps prepare udon noodles.



NJAUMC Clergy gather to discuss their dreams for the future of the historical UMC JA churches.

*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."*

If you are an active church member or active participant at Blaine Memorial UMC, I encourage you to register to vote. You may vote by registering

online by scanning the QR code on page 6.

Autumn signals great celebrations, including this year's **Harvest Festival** and **Trunk-or-Treat** on Saturday, October 28 from 11:00AM-2:30PM. There will be games and activities for all! We encourage you to dress in family-friendly costumes — please no masks allowed. Costumes *may not* contain sharp objects, pointed objects or materials that may accidentally strike another. At 2:00PM, the children will gather and participate in the Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot. Invite your family and friends!

Autumn signals a time to remember our ancestors by celebrating **All Saints Sunday** on November

5 during worship. On All Saints Day, United Methodists publicly remember and honor our loved ones who have passed away. *You're invited to bring photos of your saints which we will place on the altar.* We will say the names of Blaine Memorial members who passed away from November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023 and we will ring a bell to remember them.

Autumn signals the beginning of **Blaine Memorial's 2024 Stewardship Campaign, Together for Joy**, based on Psalm 98.

We have so much to celebrate and to be joyful about. Spread your joy, love others, and be the hope!

**M**any people say, "We can't find goodness anywhere. The light of your face has left us, Lord!" But you have filled my heart with more joy than when their wheat and wine are everywhere! I will lie down and fall asleep in peace because you alone, Lord, let me live in safety. -Psalm 4:6-8, CEB

My family still resides in and around Decatur, Alabama. If you search Decatur, Alabama, you will learn that before the conflict in Palestine-Israel escalated to all-out war, Steve Perkins, a 39-year-old African-American man, was shot by several Decatur Police officers. Steve's death on the front lawn of his home invoked outrage across the city and has sparked protests, rallies, memorials, and other calls for justice and peace. I did not know Steve, but I know Steve's plight. I know what it means to be confronted with violence and live with the threat of death every time I leave my home. With Steve's death, we add to the litany of unarmed Black men who died at the hands of state-sanctioned violence. I wonder if even being home is as safe as I tell myself it should be.

My heart aches for Steve's family. It breaks for families in Israel and Gaza already suffering injury and loss. And it will break again for the Palestinians, Israelis and others who will be caught in the crossfire as war rages across the area. With people being held captive by colonialist borders and nationalist policies, there is limited personal and communal agency. With powers from far away dictating strategies and funding war efforts, colonization.

Our high aspiration for peace must always come through acts of justice and insurance of equity. We cannot expect peace if injustice and inequities are commonplace. Our pursuit of peace must begin before we hear gunfire or see bombed-out buildings. That work starts in our homes, neighborhoods, community gathering spaces, and churches as we call out and work against all manner of injustice and inequity – especially when we are not the ones directly affected. That's one way we



## Peace is our work, everywhere

By **Cedrick D. Bridgeforth, Resident Bishop, Greater Northwest Area**  
*Courtesy of The Greater Northwest Area of The United Methodist Church*

walk in solidarity with those who are unseen, forgotten, mistreated, or dehumanized.

Another way to work for peace in the land is to acknowledge our privilege, dismantle racism, rebut nationalism, and not shy away from calling out discriminatory acts against others. We may feel like the Greater Northwest has its own problems and that those problems are nowhere near as dire as what we are witnessing in Palestine-Israel or Decatur, Alabama, but that is not true.

War anywhere in the world is a sign that everyone has work to do. The only way we bury our heads in the sand is to deny the interconnected nature of life and our globalized economic and war-making alliances. Others may be firing guns and dropping bombs in Palestine-Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, or Alabama. Still, our country's failure to have difficult conversations, resolve conflict and honor diverse viewpoints keeps us on the brink of war and economic collapse. When we are silent, apathetic, or too busy to bother with it, peace moves farther into the distance. If peace moves away, so does justice and equity.

Amid all that you are facing, holding, and trying to move forward, I pray the weight of these presenting conflicts will not slow or stop you from living as peaceably and boldly as you can. I pray that we will center equity and justice in all the spaces and places of your life to pursue peace constantly, calling attention to the injustice of war-making and anti-peace policies and actions – at home and abroad.

As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." May these words serve as a daily reminder that today's war on the other side of the globe impacts and is informed by how we live on this side. Let us not grow weary. Instead, let us continue with hope and in pursuit of peace in every place so that we can fall asleep and live lives in peace.

Peace in Palestine-Israel!  
Justice for Steve!  
Equity for All!  
Amen!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cedrick D. Bridgeforth'.



*Kobe and Tyler are assembling an amazing Suno dog during taste-testing before Bazaar.*

## BYG UPDATE BLAINE YOUTH GROUP

# BYG Suno Dogs support Maui relief!

By Kaylee Yokoyama, photos by Kai Yamamoto

It's already Fall! Blaine Youth Group has begun a brand new school year. The youth are meeting on Sundays in the Nishida Room. We are excited for a fresh start to youth ministries. This past month was filled with tons of exciting and fun events.

One of those events being the long-awaited Blaine Bazaar! BYG featured a Youth Booth where youth served delicious suno dogs and sodas. Youth plan to work diligently through their various roles in serving suno dogs, sodas, and collecting cash/donations to support Maui disaster recovery via the United Methodist Committee on Relief. In



*Justine and Zach preparing daikon for some delicious Suno dogs. We are so grateful that BYG stepped up and sold about 120 suno dogs at Bazaar, with proceeds helping those in need in Maui.*

preparation for the Bazaar, BYG held a Suno Dog/ Youth Booth training night, where youth learned all the essential roles to run the Youth Booth. Youth were taught proper food safety, how to assemble suno dogs, provide

excellent customer service, and how to best run the Youth Booth through their various roles. Afterwards, the youth were rewarded with also being able to get a taste of the famous suno dogs for dinner. We are very excited for the

return and appearance of the BYG Youth Booth iconic hot dog mascot during Bazaar! Thank you, Blaine Congregation, for continuing to support youth throughout various Blaine events!

As this new school year begins, BYG is excited to welcome new youth. We are excited for the upcoming school year and have lots in store for BYG. Please make sure to keep a look out for upcoming BYG events, news, and announcements! Again, thanks to your continued support which has allowed the youth the opportunities to grow their faith and develop meaningful relationships.

*BYG meets on Sundays at 10:00 AM. We will gather in the Sanctuary for the beginning of worship service before transitioning over to the Nishida Room for BYG time after the children's message.*

*Blaine Youth Group (BYG) is a place where youth (6th-12th grade) are invited into a loving community and celebrated as they are. BYG provides a safe environment for youth to build lasting friendships, grow spiritually, learn acceptance of self and others, express compassion for the world, and develop a love for God. BYG has a space for any person who is interested, and all are welcome.*

**Contact Information:**  
**Director of Youth Ministry:** Lynne Onishi ([lynneonishi@gmail.com](mailto:lynneonishi@gmail.com))  
**Associate Directors of Youth Ministry:** Kai Yamamoto and Kaylee Yokoyama ([kai.yamamoto@gmail.com](mailto:kai.yamamoto@gmail.com), [kaylee.yokoyama1@gmail.com](mailto:kaylee.yokoyama1@gmail.com))

**REGISTER TO VOTE**

scan the QR code to register online

**VOTE ON NOV 5!**

*Affiliation with Reconciling Ministries Network requires that at least 75% of our congregation votes to adopt a Reconciling statement. Blaine Memorial UMC will be voting on this statement of reconciliation on Sunday, November 5. Scan the QR code to register to vote!*



**Innovation Hub Update**

# **Register by Oct. 22 for upcoming Oct. RM Vote!**

**By Lynne Onishi, photos by Kai Yamamoto**

*Blaine young adults hiking up to Lake 22 near Granite Falls on a beautiful September day!*



The Innovation Hub hosted a family movie night in September! We gathered for food, fellowship, and a movie screening. Our film nights are opportunities for people of all ages to gather and enjoy meaningful, inspirational, or thought-provoking movies.

Upcoming Events		
Reconciling Ministries Voter Registration Deadline	RM Gender Identity and Faith Course	Reconciling Ministries Vote
Sunday, October 22	Tuesday, October 24 (7pm on Zoom)	Sunday, November 5

### Innovation Hub Events

**F**all is here! We have been enjoying the last moments of sunshine and warmth before Winter arrives. Last September, we hosted a family film night in the social hall. We watched a lively animated musical and enjoyed plenty of food and snacks! The young adults also hiked up to Lake Twenty-Two, where we enjoyed spectacular views and plenty of sunshine! Many of our young adults also joined the BYG leaders retreat at Mercer Island UMC.

### Important! Reconciling Ministries Upcoming Vote

Since June 2022, the Reconciling Ministries Team has been leading the congregation in study and discernment about what it means to be an open and affirming church. One of the most important ways we can align ourselves with justice and reconciliation is to affiliate with the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN), an organization of United Methodist congregations committed to the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in The United Methodist Church. After over a year of questioning, learning, and discussing, it's time to take our vote – will we join the Network?

Affiliation with RMN requires that at least 75% of our congregation votes to adopt a Reconciling statement. We will be voting on this statement of reconciliation on Sunday, November 5:

*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.*

Just like voting in your local elections, we will require that congregation members REGISTER TO VOTE! We will provide paper mail-in style ballots for all who register to vote. We chose this method for security and simple record-keeping reasons. If you have questions, please contact us!

Remember to register in-person or online by Sunday, October 22! If you are planning to attend church on November 5, you may register and vote in person on that date.

Ballots will be distributed the week of October 23-27. You may mail them to the church office or return them in-person between October 29 and November 5 (mail needs to be received by November 4). Ballots will be counted after worship on Sunday, November 5.

Scan the QR code for the online registration form or sign up in-person on Sundays. Find our form in the office or social hall!

*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 (lynneonishi@gmail.com) or any of the other team members for more information.*



# Harvest Festival Returns!

Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

**BMUMC's  
Lee Activity Center**  
3001 24th Ave S

**Games  
& Activities**  
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

**Trunk-or-Treat**  
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Bring your family and friends and help celebrate the start of the fall season! There will be games and activities for all. Please bring canned food donations for Tent City 3. We encourage you to dress in your family-friendly costumes (*no masks or stick-like objects allowed*).

At 2pm the children will gather for our truck-or-treat tradition.

Volunteer now by contacting **Blaine Memorial UMC Office**  
at (206) 723-1536 or [blaineoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:blaineoffice@yahoo.com).







Rev. Mia and her family celebrated ChuSeok (Korean Thanksgiving) while watching a traditional Korean dance performance at McCaw Hall.

## Associate Pastor's Spiritual Reflection

# A Reflection on Rainy Days

By the Rev. Mia MiKyung Park

**C**oolness brings the refreshing essence of the season, with the changing colors of the leaves serving as a vivid reminder that we are truly in the midst of fall. The arrival of the rain deepens the season and stirs my emotions.

I have always had a deep affection for rain. During my childhood, rainy days held a special place in my heart. These were the days when my parents would finish their work in the fields earlier than usual and return home. I eagerly anticipated the delightful homemade snacks that my mother would prepare. She would be at home before my siblings and I returned from school. My excitement would escalate as the last school bell rang.

One memory that stands out is when my father surprised me by visiting my elementary school. That morning, I had forgotten to carry an umbrella in my backpack, even though rain was expected. My dad reminded me to take the umbrella, but I forgot. I distinctly remember sitting in class, gazing out of the window,

and spotting my dad making his way towards my classroom, passing by the playground. (Back then, parents could visit their children's classrooms without going through the administration office.) He returned home early, saw my umbrella sitting by the shoe rack, and didn't bother to bring it to me.

Sometimes, I wondered if my parents truly loved us. They didn't always express their love in words, but moments like my mother making homemade snacks even when she was tired and my father's unspoken gesture with the umbrella were testaments to their deep and unspoken love. These are the moments that anchored my heart with the love and care of my parents.

However, after experiencing two dreadful floods that affected my parents and learning about the challenges faced by the homeless during bad weather, I began to struggle with my emotions on rainy days. It is heartbreaking to know that many people are not sheltered during challenging weather days.

I find myself caught between

loving memories of my childhood and the heartache of reality. I become vulnerable once again. Such struggles never truly cease, I know. I will continue to grapple with them as I practice loving God and loving my neighbors as I love myself. Right before our children started school, all four of us fell ill one by one. I was the last to get sick, so I took care of the rest of the family. However, when I wasn't feeling well, it was a significant struggle to look after everyone else.

What does God want me to do? What is the best way to love God and my neighbors as I love myself? I understand that it's not just my challenges but everyone's.

For the October Bible memorization in the Church School, we'll be memorizing Matthew 22:37-39: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

These words guide us on our journey to love and care for one another. Love is mysterious, and it only grows when we share it, but it will decrease if we don't share. As we navigate the changing seasons and the seasons of life, let us remember God's love and compassion for each and every one and God's blessing upon us as a gateway of heavenly blessings through us.

Our children, youth, and their parents at Blaine Memorial seem to be settling into their new schedules, and it's a joy to hear about their weekly activities, which will strengthen them physically and intellectually. Our Church School and BYG are in full swing with lessons and activities that will help our children and youth grow spiritually. I am grateful to our Church School teachers and BYG Directors and Leaders for their dedicated work. A huge thanks to them and to you all for sharing your love whenever you can! Have a great October!

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



Burned out cars and the remains of buildings are seen in Lahaina town in this image captured Wednesday by U.S. Civil Air Patrol. View is on 900 block of Front Street, looking Northwest. Photo courtesy of US Civil Air Patrol.

Remains of the U.S. Seamen's Hospital (U.S. Marine Hospital), 1024 Front Street, Lahaina, Hawaii, first built 1833, in Lahaina Historic District, National Register of Historic Places. Photo courtesy of the United States Department of Homeland Security, Dominick Del Vecchio

### Spiritual Formation Center

# Our Bazaar: “Sowing Generously” for Maui

By Anne Arakaki-Lock

**A**s I write, my heart aches for my fellow Hawaiians who have lost family, homes, jobs, and maybe even hope due to recent wildfires. I cry for their pain. Then I think about all the willing people, members as well as friends of Blaine - who with no second thoughts - want to help at our upcoming Bazaar coming up on October 7.

God will provide the resources we are to use for His work – the “seeds” that we will cultivate to produce the “crops” to send to Maui through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Bringing Lahaina back is daunting, but we know that our Almighty God is big and does miracles.

We are to just give of ourselves generously



On August 8, the island of Maui experienced a major wildfire disaster fueled by windy and dry conditions. As of the time of writing, much of the community of Lahaina was considered destroyed and 97 fatalities had been discovered. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard Hawai'i Pacific District 14

and give thanks to Him. God will bless and do the rest. The generosity of our community, the use of resources that God has given us to do his work are plentiful. We

know that it must be put to good use. Lord, I pray that the generous spirit of our people will reap a harvest so bountiful for our brothers and sisters in Maui, so they can find new

life. May we always serve you with a generous heart so others will see your light.

“Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God,” -2 Corinthians 10-11.

Anne Arakaki-Lock is a member of Blaine UMC’s Congregational Care team.

# Announcements



Come sing with us! The BMUMC Choir performs music with a message every week with rehearsals on Tuesdays and Sundays.

## Wanna sing? Join the Choir, today!

*BMUMC Choir meets Tues. at 7p, Sun at 9a and 11:45a. Contact Eugene Onishi for more details!*

**T**he Blaine Choir love to sing to God. Rehearsals are Tuesday nights and Sunday mornings, and provide music for Blaine's Sunday morning services. Our goal is to develop spiritually and musically through fellowship, singing and through scripture.

Join us as we bring musical messages to the Blaine family each week. If you sing, or if you would like to learn to sing, please come join! Whether you sing in public or just in the shower - or are available "full-time" or "part-time", all are welcome! Contact Eugene Onishi (eaonishi@hotmail.com).

## Save the date!

## November

# 14

## All-Church Conference

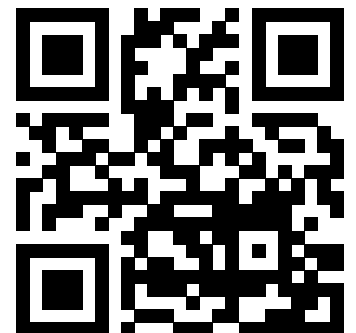
7:00pm • Blaine Memorial UMC

# blaineonline.org

Latest news • Ministry updates  
Videos • Resources

**A**ccess our latest issue of the Beacon, connect with your favorite ministries, or check out our events calendar at [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org)!

Scan the QR code with your camera or QR app to see what's happening at Blaine Memorial UMC now!



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# Lectionary

Season After Pentecost

**Twentieth Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**October 15, 2023**

Exodus 32:1-14, Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23,  
Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 23,  
Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14

**Twenty-First Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**October 22, 2023**

Exodus 33:12-23, Psalm 99,  
Isaiah 45:1-7, Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)  
I Thessalonians 1:1-10,  
Matthew 22:15-22

**Twenty-Second Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**October 29, 2023**

Deuteronomy 34:1-12,  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17, Leviticus 19:1-2,  
15-18, Psalm 1, I Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

**All Saints Day**  
**November 1, 2023**

*(Sometimes on first Sunday in November)*

Revelation 7:9-17, Psalm 34:1-10, 22, I  
John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12

**Twenty-Third Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**November 5, 2023**

Joshua 3:7-17, Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37,  
Micah 3:5-12, Psalm 43,  
I Thessalonians 2:9-13,  
Matthew 23:1-12

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday  
after Pentecost**  
**November 12, 2023**

*(If All Saints not observed on this day)*

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, Psalm 78:1-7,  
Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or Amos  
5:18-24, Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20  
or Psalm 70 I, Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

# Oct./Nov. 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-12pm, 1pm-4pm). If you have questions, please call 206-723-1536 or email [blaineoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:blaineoffice@yahoo.com).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>October 15</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Hybrid Worship</li> <li>10am, BYG Gathering</li> <li>10am, Church School</li> <li>Suno Dog Sunday!</li> <li>1pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>16</b> <p><b>Church Office Closed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Directors Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>17</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm, Praise Team Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<b>18</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>7pm, Ad Board Mtg.</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>19</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>20</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm-10:30pm, Asian Volleyball League</li> </ul>	<b>21</b>  <p><b>Harvest Festival</b> 11am, Games &amp; Activities 2pm, Trunk-or-Treat! All are welcome!</p>
<b>22</b> <p><b>Pastor Appreciation Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Hybrid Worship</li> <li>10am, BYG Gathering</li> <li>10am, Church School</li> <li>11am, Pastor Appreciation Lunch</li> <li>1pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>23</b> <p><b>Church Office Closed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Directors Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>24</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm, Choir Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<b>25</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>26</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>27</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm-10:30pm, Asian Volleyball League</li> </ul>	
<b>29</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Hybrid Worship</li> <li>10am, BYG Gathering</li> <li>10am, Church School</li> <li>1pm, Blaine Basketball</li> <li>BYG Tent City</li> </ul> 	<b>30</b> <p><b>Church Office Closed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Directors Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>31</b> <p><b>Halloween</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm, Choir Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<b>November 1</b> <p><b>American Indian Heritage Month Begins</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> <li>Newsletter articles due!</li> </ul>	<b>2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm-10:30pm, Asian Volleyball League</li> </ul>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <p><b>All Saints Sunday Stewardship 2024 Campaign begins</b></p> <p><b>Reconciling Mins. Vote!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Worship with Holy Communion</li> <li>10am, Church School</li> <li>1pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>6</b> <p><b>Church Office Closed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Directors Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>7</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Election Day</li> <li>7pm, Choir Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<b>8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>7pm Ad Board Mtg.</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>9</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>  <p><b>Veterans Day (sub.) and Veterans Day</b> Veterans from the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team attend the World War II Nisei Veterans Program National Veterans Network tribute. Photo by US/DOD.</p>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <p><b>Veteran's Day Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Hybrid Worship</li> <li>10am, BYG Gathering</li> <li>10am, Church School</li> <li>1pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>13</b> <p><b>Church Office Closed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Directors Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm, SPRC</li> <li>7pm, All Church Conference</li> </ul>	<b>15</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>16</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>Dates to Remember:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nov. 5: <b>All Saints Sunday</b>, bring photos of the saints in your lives so we may honor their legacy.</li> <li>Nov. 5: <b>Reconciling Ministries Vote</b> after worship, please register today!</li> <li>Nov. 12: Veteran's Day Sunday</li> <li>Nov. 19: <b>Together For Joy</b> Stewardship 2024 Consecration Sunday!</li> </ul>	



# 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 in cancer treatment or remission

- Jennifer Lew • Tony Yasuda • Lesley Cunninham
- Duong Nguyen • 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

- Madison Kelly • Bernie Pitts • Connie Sekijima
- Greg Ogata • Suma Yagi • Wyman Martin
- Marcia Takahashi • Rev. Shigeharu Ago

## Celebrations

- Congratulations to everyone who came to volunteer, support, purchase food, produce, or goods at the **Blaine Memorial Benefit Bazaar!** We had an amazing Bazaar on Saturday, October 7 and we appreciate every single person who came to support our beneficiary, Maui Relief and Recovery through United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Thanks to all for your generous heart and for the ways in which you serve the Lord!
- Congratulations to **Rev. Karen Yokota Love, Rev. Mia MiKyung Park, Rev. Dr. Jeney Park-Hearn, Rev. Dr. Mark C. Hearn and Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos** as we celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month throughout October. We are grateful for your witness in ministry and for your dedication and service to Blaine Memorial UMC.
- Congratulations to all of our **youth and young adults** for providing a lay-led worship service earlier this month as we celebrated **Camping Ministries Sunday!** We appreciate each youth who mustered up the courage to share their stories of faith. We celebrate how the Spirit continues to move through our youth and young adults to inspire them to spread God's love. Thank you!
- Congratulations to all who are celebrating **October and November birthdays and anniversaries!**

## For our United Methodist Church

- We continue to pray for the safety of our LGBTQI+ siblings and for a just, inclusive future within The United Methodist Church. We pray that we are guided by the Holy Spirit with love and hope. We pray for a world where all people are celebrated and loved, where their rights are secured and where their sexual and gender diversity is valued.
- We continue to pray for the entire United Methodist Church as many churches continue to disaffiliate from the UMC. As we prepare to acknowledge our choices of differing paths, may we also acknowledge that which will forever bind us. In the midst of our separation, may

we also be cognizant of the common foundation of Christ that will forever connect us. May we show each other the grace and love that You demonstrate to us through Christ. May our lives, whether through thought or deed, exemplify Your kin-dom on earth forevermore.

## For our community, nation, and world

- Prayers for the **Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church** faith community as we embark on a vote to become a **reconciling congregation** after a lengthy discernment period. May your Spirit reconcile us across the barriers that divide men and women, young and old, people of different colors, social, economic, and political divides. Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and lead us on the path of true repentance and reconciliation.
- Prayers for the **people of Israel and Palestine** amid the escalating violence. We pray for those killed and injured by rockets from Gaza in Southern Israel. We pray for the protection of those who have been taken hostage by Hamas. We pray for all civilians in both Israel and in Gaza. We pray for the leadership in Israel and Gaza. We pray for those who are grieving family and friends who have died because of the war. May they know your ever-present help and way to peace.
- Prayers for our **unhoused siblings** in our neighborhood, in the City of Seattle, in our state, and across the country. May we improve the systems so that our unhoused can be housed. May they receive the care and support necessary to find adequate housing.
- Prayers for the **fire victims, friends, communities, and Ohana in Lahaina, Maui**, due to the wildfires. We pray for all of the people who perished in the fires and for those who continue to search for missing people. We pray for the community as they rebuild and recover Lahaina as well as the neighboring communities that were destroyed on Maui.
- Prayers for **comfort and relief for those challenged by serious and chronic mental and emotional illnesses**. We ask that they receive help and support. Give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care.
- Prayers for care, justice and fairness for those worst hit by our **changing climate**. We know people living in extreme poverty around the world are worst hit by the climate crisis but have done the least to contribute to it. As we lift up prayers and requests about these issues, injustices and difficulties, we also give thanks and praise for the beauty of the world that we're part of. Through action, may we, show our government that we care about a fair and sustainable world through the love of God and for our neighbors. We want our planet to be sustainable for generations to come.

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**Oct./Nov. 2023**



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**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
- BYG Director
- BYG Associate Directors

- Rev. Karen Yokota Love
- Rev. Mia MiKyung Park
- Eugene Onishi
- Sai Hanaoka
- Lynne Onishi
- Kai Yamamoto
- Kaylee Yokoyama
- Kathy Onishi
- Yuki Sofronas
- Mimi Mar

- Pianist
- Office Assistant
- Bookkeeper

**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
- E. Onishi, Kathy Onishi
- R. 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](http://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](mailto: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.

