

Beacon

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December 2023 • Vol. 44, #11 • blaineonline.org/beacon-news

Blaine Memorial feeds our community during...



Advent



Order
Poinsettias
Today!

Thanksgiving Meals
& Tent City 3



Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church



3001 24th Avenue South • Seattle, WA 98144

206-723-1536 • blaineonline.org • blaineoffice@yahoo.com

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grew up and lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for 30 years of my life. If you've ever visited San Francisco, you've probably looked across the Bay and have spotted that famous prison, Alcatraz, sitting on a big rock in the middle of the water.

As a San Francisco Bay Area native, I would never visit Alcatraz on my own. It was one of those places that you'd visit if you had a guest visiting from out of town. One night, we decided to venture out on the "Alcatraz Night Tour." That night, I remember the guide talking and naming a liturgy of facts as tourists past barred windows, and slowly walked down a concrete hallway to a cell used for solitary confinement. After our group entered the cell, we stood shoulder to shoulder. The guide closed the door to the cell and suddenly, POOF ... all the light vanished. It was pitch black.

What seemed like minutes in the dark was just a few seconds. Everyone waited expectantly, quietly, and was surprised by the absence of light.

When the door finally opened, the light poured in, and people smiled. For the first time on the tour, people looked at each other. Nervous laughter masked the relief to be back in the light. It's amazing how solitary that confinement can be, even with other people standing right next to you. The light makes all the difference in the world.

Advent is here, and we begin the Christian year anew with a season of waiting. As the days grow



Lynne Onishi, Arlene Naganawa, Dale Watanabe, and the Rev. Karen Yokota Love celebrate Blaine Memorial's entrance into the Reconciling Ministries Network.

News from our Senior Pastor

A time of waiting, expecting, hoping

By Rev. Karen Yokota Love

The Rev. Karen Yokota Love invites you to Advent and Christmas activities at Blaine Memorial UMC. Mark your calendars, bring your family and friends!

darker, we draw closer to the arrival of the Light that turns the world upside down—or right-side up! The journey toward and beyond the manger is one of reversing expectations, encountering what we thought we already knew in brand new ways, and receiving good news in unexpected places. So, with one foot in the prophets and another in the Gospels, we journey together as our spirit waits to welcome the Christ child and carry hope, peace, joy and love

as we live as disciples who anticipate the now-and-not-yet kin-dom of God.

If you want to see what Jesus means in your life, just imagine a time without him. Have you ever had that time in your life? A time before Jesus existed for you? A time before you knew about the light of the world? Was it as dark as an Alcatraz-style of solitary confinement, even though there were other people around?

Imagine a time before Jesus was born. Where was the hope for the world?

Where was the joy? Where was the focus on love and forgiveness? There really was a time before Jesus, a time when the world was waiting, expecting, and hoping.

I'll tell you something special. During this Advent season, while I continue to watch and wait for Jesus's love, I am continuing to celebrate the recent unanimous vote that Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church took early in November to proclaim that we are now a Reconciling Ministries



The Rev. Karen welcomes attendees to Blaine Memorial UMC, second Sunday of Advent.



Our children performed during their annual Christmas play on December 10.

As the days grow darker, we draw closer to the arrival of the Light that turns the world upside down—or right-side up! The journey toward and beyond the manger is one of reversing expectations, encountering what we thought we already knew in brand new ways, and receiving good news in unexpected places.

church. I'm so thrilled about this proclamation, that it brings great hope for me (see page 8).

I also saw great light this past weekend when we participated in the Greening the Church for Advent. With the beautiful wreaths and swag around the campus, the sparkly snowflakes in our sanctuary windows and the blue tulle hanging in our sanctuary, I'm feeling more prepared for Advent.

During this season of Advent, we wait and expect and hope for the coming of

Jesus, while much of the world around us remains in the dark. Let's walk in that darkness together. Let's discover a new beginning and a new relationship with the Divine as we prepare for Jesus's birth. Here are ways in which you can spend your Advent with us at Blaine Memorial UMC. You are invited to join us in any and in all these spaces:

- On Sunday, December 10, at 10am, we celebrated Jesus' birth as we witnessed our

children and youth perform in a special Christmas Play. This video is available at blaineonline.org!

- On Sunday, December 17, at 10am, we'll jam to festive Christmas music both with Christmas hymns and secular music on Christmas Music Sunday featuring our talented Blaine Memorial Choir, B.U.G.S., soloists, and special music from our young adults-

- On Wednesday, December 20, at 7pm, we will have our Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service that is designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance for those who are grieving during this holiday season.
- On Sunday, December 24, we will have one worship service at 10am, where we are celebrating the Fourth Sunday of Advent with Christmas music and a 5pm Christmas Eve Lesson and Carols Candlelight Service.

As Christians, the center of our holiday season is the light of the world, an infant named Jesus, bringing peace. Take a moment and consider: What are the ways you will choose to focus on Jesus this season? How will you grow in your knowledge of him? How will you show those around you the difference he has made to you and to the world? Why not invite others to be part of your Christmas and help them grow as well. May the peace of God and the joy of the season illumine your heart and lead you to the heart of God, who has chosen to become one of us as Emmanuel — God with us. God wants to know our sorrows and brokenness. Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

As we wait, we prepare and stay vigilant, continue to be the hope and love in the world! Seek the light in those dark places.

The Rev. Karen Yokota Love serves as Senior Pastor of Blaine Memorial UMC.

Poinsettias on the Altar

Advent season is here and it is time to sign up for poinsettias for the altar. You may dedicate a poinsettia in celebration of a person or an event, in memory of a loved one or to honor God's glory. Poinsettias may be taken home after our Christmas Eve services. **Each plant is \$12.00.**



The deadline for Poinsettia Orders will be **Sunday, December 17, 2023.**

The order form below should be filled out and mailed to:

Blaine Memorial UMC
Attn: Poinsettias
3001 24th Ave South
Seattle, WA 98144

You may also fill out this form and place in the offering plate on Sunday after worship service.

*Scan the QR code above to download this form.
Please share!*



Poinsettia Order Form

**Please print
very clearly**

I would like to order ____ (qty.) poinsettia plant(s) for the Christmas season.

Your Name:

Phone:

In loving memory of:

In celebration of:

In honor of:

I have enclosed \$ _____ (\$12 per plant)

(Checks or online payments preferred. Please note "Poinsettias" in the memo.)



December Worship Dates

Sunday, Dec. 17, 10AM
Christmas Music Sunday in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 7PM
Blue Christmas Service in Kono Chapel

Sunday, Dec. 24, 10AM
Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship Service

Sunday, Dec. 24, 5PM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Lesson
and Carols Service



Your writing talents are needed! Submit your poetry about the season, now!

Calling for Haiku and Senryu poems, due December 22

By Dr. Stephen Sumida

This year the special Advent and Christmas “ornament” for Blaine MUMC is a haiku contest dreamed up by Shig Nishida. Not just haiku, but

also senryu. Haiku is a 17-syllable poem, conventional in Japanese, in three lines of 5-7-5 syllables. Senryu,

like Haiku, are 17-syllable poems about insights into society, people, rather than about perceptions of nature. Senryu are social

commentary or criticism, or personal self-reflections. The poem should imply or suggest the season it occurs in, should be focused on the immediate setting or place where the poem occurs, and should try to show a spontaneous insight.

Submit your entry on a 5x7 index card (available in the entrance of the Sanctuary and in the church office) with bold and large font or handwriting in drop boxes or the office by the deadline of December 22. A panel of judges will select poems in each category submitted in Advent and the poets and their poems will be announced in church. This contest is open to members of all ages, and you may submit multiple entries with prizes awarded to winners.



Sukiyaki Dinner Returns!



*Saturday, March 2, 2024 • Blaine Memorial UMC
More information to come!*



120

Blaine Memorial Anniversary Sunday

Sunday, January 28, 2024

It is such a great joy to celebrate Blaine Memorial UMC's 120th Anniversary!

We'll honor our church members and friends who have or will have reached by the end of January, the glorious age of 88 and older by reading their names aloud during worship.

In addition, we will remember our saints who have passed away in the last year who were 88 and older by the reading of their names.

We will also have a lunch celebration honoring our 88+ and our 120 years!

***For more information,
contact the Church Office for details.***



Blaine Memorial UMC to join Reconciling Ministries Network

By The Reconciling Ministries Team, photo by Jesse N. Love

Hello there! Greetings! It is with great news that after a long period of prayer, study, and thoughtful dialogue and discernment, we took our Reconciling Ministries vote on Sunday, November 5, 2023. During this time, 124 church members and active participants of Blaine Memorial UMC voted. The vote passed unanimously. Congratulations on voting on a welcome statement that affirms LGBTQIA+ people and to

commemorate the Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church's joining in the Reconciling Ministries Network. Blaine Memorial UMC celebrates God's gift of diversity and values 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. We want to personally thank the



ing Ministries Network!

Rev. Jeremy Smith from First United Methodist Church of Seattle who came to Blaine Memorial UMC to open the envelopes and to count the ballots. The ballot process was handled confidentially and in high regard. The Blaine Memorial UMC Reconciling Ministries Team was notified of the results on November 5, 2023, at 3:30PM.

Conversations and discussions about becoming an inclusive church

community began more than 17 years ago. These conversations and dialogue were intermittent throughout the years. Intentional discussions on the exploration of what it would look like to become a Reconciling Ministries congregation began over a year and a half ago as one of the outcomes from the Innovation Hub Committee. The Innovation Hub was a research and design project geared to engage young adults and

young people in the church led by the leadership of Lynne Onishi and Yoshi Kuramoto. This core group of young adults and youth recruited many members from the church community to host Bible Studies, small groups, and spaces where the church community could engage in dialogue and thoughtful discernment. Although this would not change the polity of the UMC at this time, it would announce that this congregation is in support of full inclusion for people of all gender identities, sexual orientations, and gender expressions.

Now that we are a Reconciling congregation, our work is just beginning. Our goal is to continue our pursuit to live more fully into our status. We have vowed to engage ourselves in educational opportunities to help us understand more clearly the various aspects of full inclusion, such as (but not limited to): (a) physical barriers that exclude, (b) subtle and unintentional but exclusionary language we use, (c) what the diverse "LGBTQIA+" identity labels mean to those who use them and live them each day, (d) why people share personal pronouns and how to include this practice in our context, (e) and other ethical "etiquettes" necessary to providing a safe and brave space. The list goes on. In our practice, we are ready to learn from and listen to voices on the margins.

Congratulations, Blaine Memorial UMC! Thank you for being a part of this journey as we continue to explore and learn together.

The Reconciling Ministries Team

- Lynne Onishi, *RMN Convener*
- Joshua A.
- Arlene Naganawa
- Yoshi Kuramoto
- Terri Pittman
- Jarrett Shirouzu
- Jem Tong
- Dale H. Watanabe
- Malia Yamamoto

Pastoral Support

- Rev. Karen Yokota-Love
- Rev. Mia MiKyung Park



BYG UPDATE BLAINE YOUTH GROUP

BYG successfully feeds local neighborhood

By Kai Yamamoto

Youth, young adults, and parents supported Kimball Elementary School through it's Thanksgiving Meals project! (Below Parents and young people gathered on Zoom to discuss college planning.

As we are wrapping up Stewardship month and entering Advent, the Blaine Youth Group has been working on serving those in need this holiday season. In November, BYG made 41 delicious apple crisps and 70 pounds of mashed potatoes as part of our annual Thanksgiving project. We delivered these handmade dishes alongside 41 roasted chickens, 40 bags of salad, 30 bags of oranges, and 40 bags of dinner rolls. These meals went to local families who attend Kimball Elementary School, across the street from Blaine Memorial UMC and Concord International Elementary school in the South Park neighborhood. This year, we were able to serve 30 families! Thank you to all who donated to our Thanksgiving project, and a big thank you to the families and those who were involved in making these delicious dishes!

In December, we are also planning on serving Tent City 3. During our upcoming Christmas overnighter we plan on making sandwiches for the residents to enjoy. We will serve a hot meal all 70 residents in TC3. Thank you to all our Youth and Leaders who helped to make sandwiches!



Also in November, we held a panel for parents and a panel for youth to talk about college planning. Our amazing BYG leadership team and BYG parents answered questions from fellow parents and Youth about the “college experience,” both from a parent and student perspective. It was amazing to see the Youth and parents begin to think about college and hear from our past and present college students and parents. We cannot wait to see what the future holds for our youth!

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 and neighbor. BYG has a space for any person who is interested.

*Director of Youth Ministry: Lynne Onishi, lynneonishi@gmail.com
Associate Directors of Youth Ministry: Kai Yamamoto, kai.yamamo@gmail.com and Kaylee Yokoyama, kaylee.yokoyama1@gmail.com*



The children of Blaine Memorial presented their play, "Breaking News! The Savior is Born!"

Associate Pastor's Spiritual Reflection

Go tell it on the mountain!

By Rev. Mia MiKyung Park, photo by Jesse N. Love

The Church calendar begins with Advent, a season of anticipation and waiting for the arrival of our Savior, who came to us as a tiny baby. This period is a time of reflection and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. It reminds me of the most mysterious and significant event in all human history – the incarnation. In this divine act, God took on human form to be with us, and the very name "Emmanuel: God with us" signifies the incredible hope, peace, joy and love he brings to all people.

As we eagerly anticipate the arrival of Christmas and the boundless joy it brings, we must also acknowledge the somber realities of our

world. Ongoing conflicts, such as the Russia-Ukraine war and the Israel-Hamas conflict, cast a shadow of despair and suffering over our global community. The juxtaposition of this turmoil with the message of hope during Advent raises the question: how do we find and maintain hope in seemingly hopeless situations? How can we sustain inner peace amidst external chaos?

The answer lies in the promise from the Gospel of Luke 2:10-12. These verses are a beacon of hope, reminding us that even in the darkest of times, we can find light and solace. The angel's message to the shepherds is a message to us all: "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you

good news of great joy for all the people." Which is our Church School's December memorization.

This message encapsulates the essence of the Christmas season. It is a call to banish fear from our hearts, for perfect love casts out fear. In a world where fear often seems to govern our actions and decisions, it is in this perfect love, this divine love, that we find hope, peace and joy. The birth of Jesus on Christmas Day signifies the embodiment of this perfect love, a love that can dispel even the deepest fears and transform it to endless love.

The challenges and circumstances of life may attempt to diminish the great joy we receive through this divine love,

but the good news remains steadfast. It is not exclusive to a select few; it is meant for "all the people."

As we light the candles on the Advent wreath, we are reminded of the meanings of each candle – hope, peace, joy and love. The season allows us to reflect on the message Advent, deepening our understanding and experiencing of incarnation that Christ's birth brings.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us not only be recipients of hope, peace, joy and love but also channels through which these gifts can flow to others. Children and youth delivered the message of Christmas in their play *BREAKING NEWS! The Savior is Born!* on Sunday, December 10 in the Lee Activity Center. The message from our children reached out to every person living in different circumstances or stations in life. We honor the true meaning of this season, and we participate in the sacred mission of spreading hope, peace, joy and love in a world that often longs for them. May we remember the angel's message: "Do not be afraid," for through the birth of Christ, we are invited to go tell the message on the mountains and to be a sanctuary of perfect love that can withstand any storm, illuminating our lives and those around us until all can truly sleep in heavenly peace.

The Rev. Mia MiKyung Park serves as the Associate Pastor of Blaine Memorial UMC.



I will be thankful for the simple and extraordinary blessings all around me. Father, I thank you for life. I thank you for Jesus.

Spiritual Formation Center

It's a Merry Christmas!

By Anne Arakaki-Lock

God, for my Christmas present this year I wish for peace on earth. I pray that there will be no more killing and fighting in Ukraine, that the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians ends. I pray that the shootings on the streets of Seattle end and that we can feel safe in our neighborhoods, parks, shopping malls, places of worship. Dear Lord, may we all have peace in our hearts.

In fact, Lord, I will remember to sing and rejoice for your coming and feel the rays of sunshine. I will smile with the silly little kids, laugh when the weather changed and the nagging wife said to her complaining shivering husband, "I told you: you should have brought your jacket." Then turning to her friend, "I told him he should have brought his jacket." (Haha, sounds like me).

I will look for the funny things that make me laugh. I will be thankful for the simple and extraordinary blessings all around me. Father, I thank you for life. I thank you for Jesus. Yes, it's a Merry Christmas! "But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord because he has dealt bountifully with me." Psalm 13:5-6 ESV

Anne-Arakaki Lock serves on Blaine Memorial UMC's Congregational Care team.

Lectionary

Advent & Christmas

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
I Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13,
2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126, or Luke
1:46b-55, I Thessalonians 5:16-24, John
1:6-8, 19-28

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Luke 1:46b-55 or
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 Romans 16:25-27,
Luke 1:26-38

Nativity of the Lord - Proper I

December 24 & 25, 2023

Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day
Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14,
Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

Nativity of the Lord - Proper II

December 24 & 25, 2023

Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day
Isaiah 62:6-12, Psalm 97, Titus 3:4-7,
Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20

Nativity of the Lord - Proper III

December 24 & 25, 2023

Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day
Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1:1-
4, (5-12), John 1:1-14

First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 31, 2023

Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148,
Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40

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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

- Katie Tat, Rev. Karen and Jesse's niece • 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
- Greg Ogata • Suma Yagi
- Connie Sekijima • Wyman Martin
- Marcia Takahashi
- Rev. Shigeharu Ago

Celebrations

- Congratulations to all who are celebrating December birthdays and anniversaries!
- Thank you to our congregation for purchasing and wrapping gifts for our children and families at Kimball Elementary School for the Giving Tree. Thank you to Terri Adolfo for being our fierce leader for this ministry! This year, Blaine Memorial provided gifts to 70 children and 28 families. Thank you for making a difference!
- Congratulations to Blaine Memorial UMC on voting on a welcome statement that affirms LGBTQIA+ people and to commemorate the Blaine Memorial UMC joining the Reconciling Ministries Network.

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 all of our friends, family members and neighbors who are currently awaiting medical test procedures or results. We ask that you help our loved ones find peace and strength in you. Grant emotional resilience as a loved one may face a test result. May you provide comfort and support and surround them with your love.
- Prayers for all of our friends and neighbors who struggle with addiction. We pray that you give them the courage and strength to face their struggles so they can be free from the sickness and pain that keeps them in bondage. May you restore their sense of self-worth, may they find redemption and restoration in you, dear Lord.
- 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 our planet and for the severe weather changes due to climate change. May we know the error of our ways and work towards a new sustainable lifestyle.
- Prayers for our unhoused siblings in our neighborhood, in the City of Seattle, in our state, and across the country. May we improve systems so that our unhoused can be housed. May they receive the care and support necessary to find adequate housing.
- Prayers for our elected leaders in government positions. Fill our leaders with wisdom, understanding, discernment, and knowledge. Give them the strength to make good decisions both in and out of the public eye.
- Prayers for the people of Israel and Palestine amid the violence and war. We pray for peace and reconciliation for people in the Israel-Hamas War. We pray for those who are dead and for the families who grieve. We pray for peace between the two regions.

Dec. 2023-Jan. 2024

Visit blaineonline.org/calendar for updates. The Church Office is open Tuesday-Friday (10am-12pm, 1pm-4pm). If you have questions, please email blaineoffice@yahoo.com or call 206-723-1536.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 Second Sunday of Advent / Children and Youth Christmas Play • 10am, Hybrid Worship • 12pm, Girl Scouts Mtg. • 1pm, Blaine Basketball	11 Church Office Closed • 10am, Zoom Yoga • 11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga • 7:00pm, Zoom BYG Leaders Meeting	12 • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal	13 • 9:00am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am Pickleball	14 • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele Practice • 7:00pm, Blaine Basketball	15 • 5pm, Volleyball	16 • 6pm, BYG Christmas Gathering
17 Third Sunday of Advent Christmas Music Sunday • 10am, Hybrid Worship • 1pm, Kimball Meal Prep • 1pm, Blaine Basketball	18 Church Office Closed • 10am, Zoom Yoga • 11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga • 6pm, Kimball Meal Prep • 7:00pm, Zoom BYG Leaders Meeting	19 • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal • 7pm, Ad Board Zoom Mtg	20 • 9:00am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 6pm, SASC Meeting	21 • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele Practice • 7:00pm, Blaine Basketball	22 • 5pm, Volleyball	23
24 Fourth Sunday of Advent • 10am, Hybrid Worship Christmas Eve • 5pm, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Church Office Closed	26	27	28	29	30
• CHURCH OFFICE AND CAMPUS CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 25-30, 2023 - JANUARY 1-2, 2024						
31 New Year's Eve • 10am, Hybrid Worship • 1pm, Blaine Basketball	January 1 Happy New Year! • CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2 • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal	3 • 9:00am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am Pickleball • 8pm Zoom Church School Meeting	4 • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele Practice • 7:00pm, Blaine Basketball	5 • 5pm, Volleyball	6
7 Epiphany Sunday • 10am, Hybrid Worship • 10am, BYG Gathering • 10am, Church School • 12pm, Ozoni Lunch • 1pm, Blaine Basketball	8 Church Office Closed • 10am, Zoom Yoga • 11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga • 7:00pm, Zoom BYG Leaders Meeting	9 • 7pm, Choir Rehearsal	10 • 9:00am, Coffee & Prayer w/Rev. Karen • 10:30am Pickleball • 8pm Zoom Church School Meeting	11 • 12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele Practice • 7:00pm, Blaine Basketball	Upcoming • January 7, Epiphany Sunday and Ozoni Lunch • January 14, Human Relations Sunday with special offering for General Board of Church and Society • January 28, 2024, 120th Anniversary Worship and Celebratory Lunch	



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Seattle, WA 98144

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December 2023



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

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 UMC celebrates God’s gift of diversity and values 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.



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.

