

# Beacon

**Connect with Blaine!**

**3 Palm Sunday, Easter Events**

**4 Order Easter Lilies 8 Order Sukiyaki Now!**

February-March 2024 • Vol. 45, #2 • [blaineonline.org/beacon-news](http://blaineonline.org/beacon-news)



## LENT HAS BEGUN!

# FIGURING OUT OUR FAITH

**BYG Leadership Development • IH: Reflections & Historical Ties**  
**Rev. Mia: What is the meaning of "love"?**



**Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church**



3001 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue South • Seattle, WA 98144

206-723-1536 • [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org) • [blaineoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:blaineoffice@yahoo.com)

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Rev. Karen Yokota Love and Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos gather with George Yates, Dorine Nakamura, Rae and Shig Nishida at the 120th Anniversary Potluck luncheon.

## News from our Senior Pastor

### Figuring out our Faith

By The Rev. Karen Yokota Love, photos by Kai Yamamoto

Yesterday, I took a walk around the church neighborhood to get some exercise. Many of the trees lost their leaves because of the dreary winter season. Suddenly, my eyes lit up by the sight of tiny buds poking out at the tips of the limbs. I could see signs of hope and signs of spring. I'm grateful that God continues to carry me through the dark and weary winter months and that hope is just around the bend.

*"Look, the winter is past, and the rains are over and gone. The flowers are springing up, the season of singing birds has come, and the cooing of turtledoves fills the air. The fig trees are forming young fruit, and the fragrant grapevines are blossoming. Rise up, my darling! Come away with me, my fair one!"* – Song of Solomon 2:11-13

Let's thank the Lord for this new day that is unfolding around us! Blaine Memorial continues to be a vibrant place for ministry with new ideas, new ministry activities, while continuing to revive much loved events. Recently, we celebrated the vibrancy of Blaine's ministries by celebrating our 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on January 28, 2024. Please take a look at our celebration on page 6.

Our **Sukiyaki Benefit Fundraiser** is right around the bend. It'll take place at Blaine Memorial UMC on **Saturday**,

**March 2 from 1pm-6pm.** This year's benefit recipient will be the Migrant Support Services at Riverton Park UMC in Tukwila, WA. Currently, there are 500+ migrants camping outside on the lawn of Riverton Park UMC and they need basic resources. ***We are also asking every person that comes to Sukiyaki to bring a gently used blanket.*** The migrants are sleeping outside in tents are asking for a warm blanket to help them during the rainy and cold season.

This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out — just like us.

Peter had a wandering heart. Jesus was always there to catch Peter, to walk beside him, to wash his feet, and to offer love. In Peter's story, we find Jesus. Peter's wandering faith ebbed and flowed, pushed away and pulled close. He was always tethered to the love of God. In our Lent series, we want to affirm that faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. We want to affirm that wandering is exploration, not necessarily distance from God.

As we prepare for this journey in the wilderness with our



*The Rev. Karen Yokota Love preaches her sermon, "Go Forth in Faith", during Blaine Memorial's Anniversary Sunday.*

own wandering hearts, I want to invite you to our events during Holy Week – put these dates and times on your calendar! During the last week in March, we'll begin the week with:

- *Palm Sunday (3/24), where we will celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem with palm fronds!*
- *On Good Friday (3/29) at 7:00PM, Japanese Baptist Church is inviting Blaine members to worship together at JBC. Together, we will remember Jesus' sacrifices and unwavering love for us. It will be wonderful to see our JBC friends and worship with them. People are invited to come at 5:00PM for a simple soup supper meal. Please come! We would love to have a hearty group of church members from both worshipping communities for a reunion!*
- *Finally, on Easter Sunday (3/31), you are invited to come to Easter Breakfast hosted by the BYG at 8am in the LAC. Bring flowers from your garden for the Flowering of the Cross which will take place before worship. Afterwards, children and youth are invited to join in on an Easter Egg Hunt which will be in the Courtyard.*



*The BMUMC Choir performs, "For Everyone Born".*

This Lent, we're joining Peter in figuring out faith. We will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of Peter's story. We will reflect on the stages of our own faith journeys as well as who and what has shaped us along the way. As we wander, let us tune our hearts to sing God's grace. May we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing.



## Celebrating Easter at Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church

**E**aster Lilies will once again bring beauty and fragrance to our worship setting for Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. These lilies remind us of the joy of new life in Jesus Christ as we celebrate His resurrection of Easter morning. This year, the worship committee invites you to dedicate an Easter lily plant for the altar.



# Easter Lily Order Form | Please print very clearly

I would like to order \_\_\_ (qty.) Easter lily plants for the altar on Easter Sunday at Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church.

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 **"Easter Lily"** in the memo.)

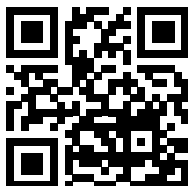
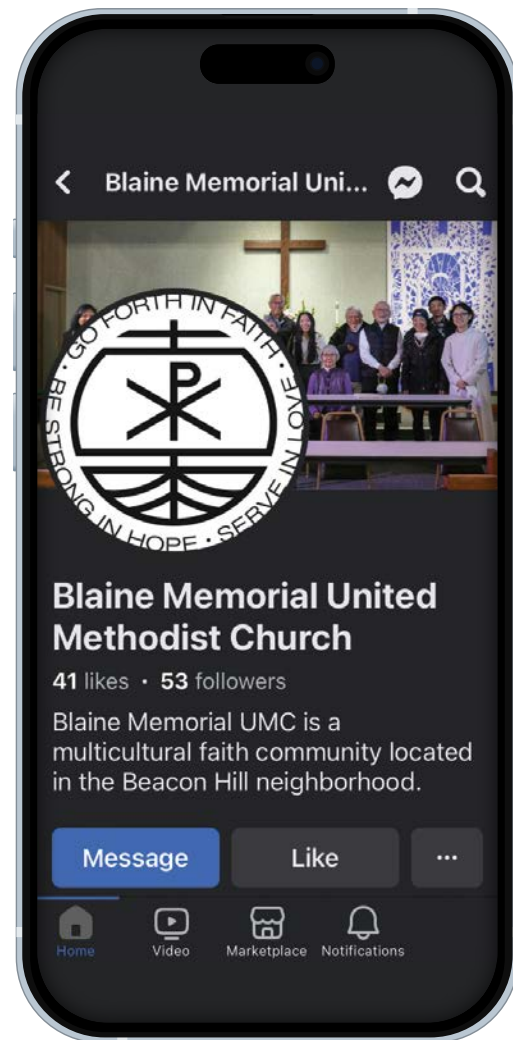
### How to Order:

- Complete the order form below. The cost for each plant is \$12. You can submit your form by **Sunday, March 24.**
- Send to Blaine Memorial UMC, ATTN: Easter Lily, 3001 24th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98144.
- Bring form to the church office.
- Or, place this form in the offering plates by **Sunday, March 24, 2024.**



## Easter Sunday Flowering of the Cross

One of the most meaningful and beautiful traditions we celebrate on Easter Sunday (3/31/2024) is the Flowering of the Cross, symbolizing the new life in Christ which transform the cross into a symbol of joy and hope. We invite all who are attending Easter Sunday worship (in person), to bring flowers from your garden (trimmed to a short stem) to be placed on the cross as you enter into the Sanctuary for Easter worship. Thank you!



[blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org)



[www.fb.com/  
blainememorialchurch](http://www.fb.com/blainememorialchurch)

## Stay connected with Blaine Memorial UMC!

**V**isit Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church on Facebook for the latest news on church events and more. Also bookmark [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org) for video links to Sunday Worship Services, church stories, and ways to give.

The latest issue of the Beacon can also be found through these resources! Need help accessing our pages? Contact [blaineoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:blaineoffice@yahoo.com) or talk to any member of Blaine Memorial UMC's staff to assist!



## Blaine Celebrates 120 years of Ministry!

**B**laine Memorial UMC celebrated our 120th Anniversary on January 28, 2024 in a special worship service. We honored our members and friends who reached the glorious age of 88 and older by reading their names aloud. We saw old friends and got reacquainted with their extended families after many years.

A commemorative video of snapshots from the beginning of our church to the present day was created by Gail Nomura, Dale Kaneko, and edited by Michael Chikamura. We also remembered our saints who have passed away from February 2023-January 28, 2024 who were 88 and older by the reading of their names. The celebration was completed with an all-church potluck in the LAC!

It was with such great joy for us to recognize our 88+ elders many years of living, the gifts and contributions that they've given throughout the years and all of the ways that God continues to be a part of each precious moment!



*Shig Nishida is honored as our age 88+ club.*



*Blaine Memorial UMC celebrated its members ages 88 and up.*



*After Sunday Worship, members and friends gathered for a delicious potluck for BMUMC's 120th Anniversary.*



*Yuki M. plays the cello with the choir.*



*Sai Hanaoka and the Rev. Dr. Jeney Park-Hearn honor those who've passed in the last year.*

**Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church**  
3001 24th Ave South Seattle 98144 | 206.723.1536



# SUKIYAKI

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**  
**Time: 1pm-6pm**

**\$20.00**  
**Per serving**  
Cooked and Uncooked  
available



**Other sale items include: Baked Goods, Traditional Ohagi, Tsukemono, and Blaine Memorial Cookbooks**

**Beneficiary: The Migrant Support Services at Riverton Park UMC in Tukwila, WA**

**"Bring a blanket!" We will have a blanket drive for the migrants at Riverton Park UMC.**

[www.blaineonline.org](http://www.blaineonline.org)

Order Suki-yaki now, 24/7, by scanning this QR code or visit **[blaineevents.square.site](http://blaineevents.square.site)**!





The BYG Youth and Leadership have a joyful time during game night!

BLAINE YOUTH GROUP

# BYG UPDATE

## BYG continues leadership development

By Kai Yamamoto

### Upcoming Events

**Easter Breakfast Prep**  
March 30

**Easter Breakfast**  
March 31

I can't believe Blaine just turned 120 years old! Throughout Blaine's history, BYG has been through many iterations and changes, and many people have passed through, entering as pre-teenagers, and departing as well-rounded young adults. But one thing that has stayed consistent throughout the years – BYG has always been a welcoming group of students who gather for fellowship and further their love of God. Although there have been many different directors, styles of leadership, youth, and even youth rooms, BYG has always been a place where students feel loved, free to express themselves, and have a wonderful time!

Throughout my time in the Blaine

Youth Group, I've always associated BYG with fellowship. Leaders and directors would always take time to plan for youth and leaders to spend time together and fellowship amongst each other. As we continue to adapt to current and future youth and leaders, we will continue to host fellowship time for the youth as it is an important defining pillar of BYG.

This past January, we held a game night for the youth! Although it was cold, youth and leaders gathered for a warm meal in the Social Hall and played a variety of games. A group of youth and leaders played a thrilling game of Monopoly, while another group giggled while playing Jackbox games, a computer game where users input phrases that go with a certain

theme or question. We also played some fun card games and made a big tower built out of cups! The tower was huge! Both youth and leaders had a tremendous amount of fun playing games together, and we cannot wait to host another game night in the future!

During our BYG time in January, we took time to reflect on this past year and all the amazing accomplishments we had! We reflected on our goals that we had set for ourselves last January. We also took time to slow down and acknowledge everything we did last year, from extracurricular activities to academics, and be proud of everything that we were able to do. Finally, we wrote a letter to ourselves that we will open next year to look at and reflect on. We wrote about our goals and what we would like to accomplish this year. We also talked about how we could help each other in achieving our goals and how we could support each other throughout this year. We hope that both leaders and youth will be able to help each other accomplish each other's goals this year!

*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

**Associate Directors of Youth Ministry**  
Kai Yamamoto and Kaylee Yokoyama  
kai.yamamoto@gmail.com, kaylee.yokoyama1@gmail.com



*Last year at the Day of Remembrance Part II, members of Blaine Memorial UMC caravanned to the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, Wash. The solidarity with the Japanese American community and those who are in the NWDC link the past and present injustices, drew attention to worsening conditions inside NWDC.*

## Innovation Hub Update

### February reflections on historical community ties

By Lynne Onishi, photos by Ryan Kozu

**R**ecently, I reconnected with a friend from high school. We hadn't seen each other in nearly 10 years, and I was fascinated to hear about all the life he had lived since. My friend explained how he had studied history in college out of a deep curiosity about the past but ended up uncovering so many stories that the world needs to hear today. I haven't stopped thinking about this. In the last couple of years, I've been doing more history-focused reading, hoping to uncover some kind of truth that will help me make sense of my life now. I think a similar phenomenon also connects people of faith to our sacred texts and traditions. We return to the rituals and readings from so long ago, knowing that God is somehow still speaking through these ancient stories.

This is a time of year when so many of us look back into our history and let those stories inform our lives today. In February, we celebrate Black History Month and lift up the Black stories and individuals who have shaped our present and continue to pave the way for our future. In 2024, we celebrate African Americans and the arts. On February 19th we observed the Day



*At the 2023 Day of Remembrance, a "Never Again is Now" banner adorned by colorful tsuru (origami cranes) reminds event attendees that the history of Executive Order 9066 and Japanese American incarceration still matter today.*

of Remembrance, the anniversary of President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066. In the Japanese American community, we honor our ancestors, tell their stories, educate the public, speak up so that this never happens to marginalized people today.

And at Blaine Memorial UMC, we're spending the whole year celebrating 120 years of ministry! Now, I've only been around for a small portion of this history. But as I hear more stories from our past, I have started to piece together a larger tapestry of the ways this community has touched the lives of many. And I'm finding new ways that my personal and family stories intertwine with the story of Blaine

Memorial UMC. Perhaps this is true for you, too. Our community's history tells us not only how we became who we are today, but we can also let our past inform who we will become.

The IH and RM teams 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.

Questions? Send an email to [lynneonishi@gmail.com](mailto:lynneonishi@gmail.com)

*Lynne Onishi is the director of the Blaine Youth Group and serves on the Reconciling Ministries Team.*



*The Revs. Mia MiKyung Park and John Go spend family time together in Vancouver BC, Canada.*

## Associate Pastor's Spiritual Reflection

### What is the meaning of "Love"?

By the Rev. Mia MiKyung Park

**F**ebruary, the shortest month of the year, is brimming with events that beckon us to explore the depths of love. In this significant period, I find myself constantly reflecting on the profound meaning of love, often turning to the timeless words found in 1 Corinthians 13.

Love, as described in 1 Corinthians chapter 13, is truly mysterious. It thrives when shared generously but withers away when held back. The essence of love is symbolized by Jesus, who humbly walked the journey to the cross.

*"Love is patient, kind, devoid of envy, boastfulness, arrogance, and rudeness. It does not insist on its own way, remains untroubled, and forgives without keeping a record of wrongs. Love does not delight in wrongdoing but finds joy in the truth. It bears all*

***For 40 days, excluding Sundays, Lent is a season of self-examination, repentance, and reflection on Jesus's sacrificial love. I want to walk towards a deeper understanding of that love.***

*things, believes in all things, hopes through all things, and endures all things. Importantly, love never reaches an end," (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).*

As we approach Lent, which began on Ash Wednesday and coincides with Valentine's Day this year, I want to take intentional time and effort to reflect on the selfless love of Jesus—a love without boundaries or limitations.

For 40 days, excluding Sundays,

Lent is a season of self-examination, repentance, and reflection on Jesus's sacrificial love. I want to walk towards a deeper understanding of that love. Jesus's self-sacrificing love on the cross becomes powerful when it is not just spoken but lived out in our daily interactions. Also, this love is contagious and never contained in one place; it spreads out.

Jesus's Agape love teaches us what it means to be a Christian, and this love will guide us humbly to walk the journey of faith. Jesus asks all of us personally, "Do you love me?" like Jesus asked Peter to affirm his love for Christ (John 21:15-19). Peter felt hurt since Jesus asked him three times. With each affirmation of love, Jesus tells Peter to "feed my lambs," "take care of my sheep," and "feed my sheep" (John 21:15-19).

Our Church School's focus for Bible memorization in February is Matthew 7:12, known as the Golden Rule: "In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the Law and the Prophets." This rule is made possible by the love that inspires and motivates us to mirror the life of Jesus, who continues to challenge us to get close to people who are marginalized in many ways to reach out to people beyond our abilities. The Golden Rule isn't just a teaching or an ethical guideline; it's a reflection of the love that underlies our faith. By treating others as we wish to be treated, we embody the self-giving, sacrificial love demonstrated by Jesus. This love doesn't discriminate; it flows freely and generously, reaching beyond our comfort zones, and we share this love freely because we also receive it freely.

As we navigate through February, may our hearts be open to the mysterious and transformative power of love—love that never ends, love that bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things and commands us to take care of God's people including ourselves.

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

# Spiritual Formation Center

## Listening and Hearing; Nudges and Action

By Anne Arakaki-Lock

**W**e were well into the new year, and I had just talked to God about this year's resolutions the night before Rev. Karen preached her sermon on Human Relations Sunday. She noted that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement began with prayer. Dr. King had heard God's still voice, and he responded.

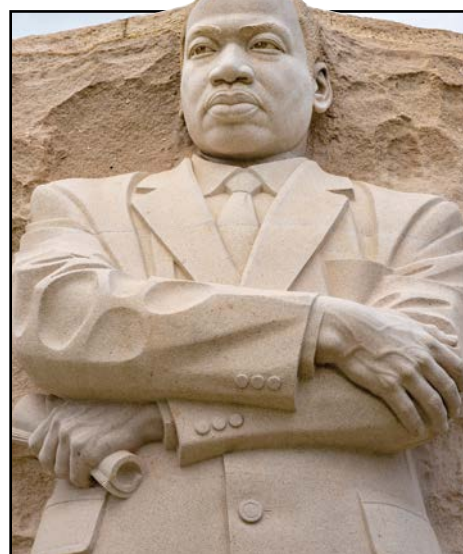
I had prayed about my 2024 resolutions and decided that this year I would aim to stay focused and have honest conversations with God and hear Him. I wanted to trust and feel His presence more. I knew that I had to intentionally pause and be still, to take a deep breath and settle my heart to feel His presence when I prayed, when I wanted to have conversation. You can imagine how affirming it was that Reverend Karen's sermon addressed the resolution I had just made the night before. I was in sync with the Holy Spirit!

Reverend Karen noted, "God speaks to us all the time, but are we listening?" I honestly don't always, but this time I know that my 2024 resolution had come from God. I also know, that life isn't just about listening, it's about hearing the calls to action, too. So the other half of the equation is equally as important as listening itself -- that is, "responding to God's voice?" What about "following with action?"

Immediately after the service, God had me in conversation with Gail Nomura, Archives Chair. In my heart, I had been carrying the weight of knowing I needed to do more for our 120th Anniversary... So do you think it was just a "coincidence" that it was Gail talking to me? I would say instead that it was the nudge.

"Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand." Psalm 73:23 NIV

Anne Arakaki-Lock is a member of Blaine Memorial UMC.



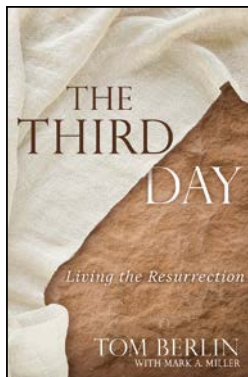
United States, Washington D. C. - September 20, 2019: The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial is located next to the National Mall, it includes the Stone of Hope, a granite statue of Civil Rights Movement. Photo by Itza Villavicencio Urbieto.

## Lent Book Studies

### *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection* Lenten Book Study

This year's All Church Lenten study is *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection* by Tom Berlin and Mark A. Miller. This study began on Tuesday, February 13, at 7pm via Zoom and was facilitated by Rev. Mia MiKyung Park and Rev. Karen Yokota Love. The link will be emailed prior to the meeting date. We will also meet on Tuesdays: 3/5, 3/12, and 3/19 to discuss each chapter.

The Office is selling *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection* books for \$14.00 and the Leader Guide is \$12.00. You are welcome to buy the book in the Office and read with your small groups.

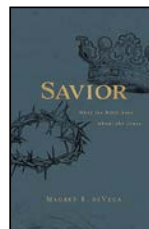


In *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*, Tom Berlin uses his storytelling gifts and scriptural understanding to connect readers to the experiences of individuals around Jesus in his final days. The focus is on new life and redemption rather than loss.

Come and journey with characters like Peter, Mary Magdalene, and Thomas as they experience the despair of losing Jesus and the surprise and joy that awaits them in the resurrection. This study will explore events around these characters, along with Paul and the disciples at Emmaus, and how the resurrection transforms their lives.

### NJAUMC Lenten Book Study continues until March 25!

You're invited to join Rev. John Miyahara (UMC/US Navy Chaplain), Rev. Brian Lee (Simpson UMC), and members of the Japanese American United Methodist Caucus congregations in a 6-week Advent book study. We are reading *Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross* by Magrey DeVega. Books are \$17.00 in the Church Office. Please note that reading the book isn't required! The



first session began on Monday, February 19 from 4:30-6:00 PM (Hawaii), 6:30-8:00 PM (Pacific) and 7:30-9:00 PM (Mountain). The study will conclude on Mon., March 25.



# 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

- Aida Kozu, 104, a beloved church member, passed away peacefully on February 12, 2024 in Seattle, WA. She is survived by her three children: John (married to Darlene Eng-Kozu) of Seattle, Patricia of New York City, and Michael of Boston. Aida is survived by her grandchild and church member, Ryan Kozu (married to Marina Furuta-Kozu) and great-grandson Joshua. She is survived by many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. A graveside service will be held for immediate family members. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Aida's memory to Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church, Project R.I.G.H.T., or your favorite cause.
- Lucy Sato, 96, a beloved church member, passed away peacefully on December 18, 2023. She lived a full, beautiful life. Our prayers go out to the Hayasaka and Sato families. Lucy is survived by her children, David (Terry), Dean, Stan, Joan, Richard (Trinh), Sam (Janet), Mike (Joanne); thirteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She loved her family with all of her heart. The immediate family will hold a private burial service in March in accordance with Lucy's request. She will be laid to rest joining her late husband, Robert Sato at the Washington Memorial Cemetery. Remembrances may be made to: Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church, Nisei Veterans Committee or a charity of your choice.

## Those in cancer treatment or remission

- Jennifer Lew • Tony Yasuda • Katie Tat
- Duong Nguyen • Quy Phi
- Nikki Palmer • Linda Perry
- Chuck Sitkin • Dean Tsuchida

## Those in nursing homes or care facilities

- Dorothy Akiyama

## Those with health concerns, recovery

- Sumi Yoshioka • Pui Chung Ngao Wong
- Madison Kelly • Greg Ogata • Sam Wakasugi

- Suma Yagi • Wyman Martin
- Marcia Takahashi • Rev. Shigeharu Ago

## Celebrations

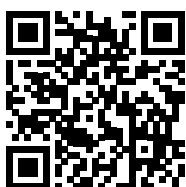
- Happy 120th Anniversary, Blaine Memorial UMC! Today is a momentous day in the history of this faith community. Let us continue to worship together, pray together, lift up the Lord's Holy Name in thanksgiving and bless God for all the ways in which God has blessed us.
- Congratulations to all who are celebrating February and March 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 the 82nd year of the EO 9066 Day of Remembrance on February 19, 2024, when our nation was gripped with wartime fears and uncertainty and our ancestors were assembled and sent to incarceration camps. Let us learn from past errors and know that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. May we be moved to be allies, to speak up and speak out, and to ensure that such an injustice is not repeated for any group of marginalized people.
- Prayers for comfort and relief for those challenged by serious and chronic mental and emotional illnesses. 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 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.



## blaineonline.org/beacon-news

Remember and share our stories! The Beacon archive has issues from Volume 44 (2023) and can be found at [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org). Scan the QR code now!

# Feb-Mar 2024

Visit [blaineonline.org/calendar](http://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](mailto:blaineoffice@yahoo.com) or call 206-723-1536.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>18</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> </ul>	<b>19</b> <b>Presidents' Day</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm, NJAUMC Lent Book Study (Zoom)</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Leaders Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>20</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm, Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>7pm, Lenten Study (Zoom)</li> <li>7pm, Ad Board Zoom Mtg</li> </ul>	<b>21</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> </ul>	<b>23</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Volleyball</li> </ul>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</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> </ul>	<b>26</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm, NJAUMC Lent Book Study (Zoom)</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Leaders Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>27</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm, Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>7pm, Lenten Study (Zoom)</li> </ul>	<b>28</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>29</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> </ul>	<b>March 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sukiyaki Prep, final day</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Sukiyaki</b>          Saturday, March 2, 2024          5pm-8pm          \$20.00 per person          See you there!</p>
• LAC Closed for Sukiyaki Preparations. Contact Church Office for questions.						
<b>3</b> <b>Communion Sunday</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>All-Church Lunch, after Sunday Worship</li> </ul>	<b>4</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm, NJAUMC Lent Book Study (Zoom)</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Leaders Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm, Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>7pm, Lenten Study (Zoom)</li> </ul>	<b>6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>7</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> <li>7:00pm, IH Book Study Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Volleyball</li> </ul>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</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> </ul>	<b>11</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am, Zoom Yoga</li> <li>11:30am, Zoom Gentle Yoga</li> <li>6:30pm, NJAUMC Lent Book Study (Zoom)</li> <li>7:30pm, Zoom BYG Leaders Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>12</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7pm, Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>7pm, Lenten Study (Zoom)</li> </ul>	<b>13</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00am, Coffee &amp; Prayer w/Rev. Karen</li> <li>10:30am Pickleball</li> <li>8pm Zoom Church School Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm, B.U.G.S. Ukulele</li> <li>6:30pm, Blaine Basketball</li> <li>7:00pm, IH Book Study Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>Upcoming Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3/23, Young Adult Hike</li> <li>3/24, Palm Sunday @ Blaine Memorial UMC</li> <li>3/24, Easter Lily Ordering Deadline</li> <li>3/29, Good Friday @ Japanese Baptist Church</li> <li>3/31, Easter Sunday @ Blaine Memorial UMC</li> </ul>	



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## Connect with Blaine!

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### 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

### 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.

### Lay Leadership Team

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

Brad Miyake  
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](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.

