

Beacon

Connect with Blaine!

4 Mission Guatemala Meeting! 5 Order now: Easter lilies!
6 Photos: Day of Remembrance, Olympia

March/April 2026 • Vol. 47, #1 • Download this issue at blaineonline.org/ beacon-news

Walk for Rice 2026!



The Power of Community



Day of Remembrance, Olympia!

Lenten, Easter Worship Info

Palm Sunday Worship:
Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m.

Good Friday Service
*with Beacon United Methodist
Church at Beacon UMC:*
Friday, April 3, 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday Worship:
Sunday, April 5, 10 a.m.



Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church



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Past Nisei Veterans Committee Commander Rick Takeuchi catches up with The Rev. Karen Yokota Love at the luncheon.



The Rev. Karen Yokota Love prays for Pastor Job and Rosemarie Pangilinan during their last Sunday serving at Blaine Memorial UMC.

Senior Pastor Reflection Shaped by Love: Lent, Justice, and the Power of Community

By the Rev. Karen Yokota Love, photos by Jesse N. Love

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is — God’s good, pleasing and perfect will.” — Romans 12:2

As we reach the endpoint of Lent, we do so amid a world that often feels unsettled, with troubling news like the recent war in Iran reminding us how deeply our world needs prayer, peace, and God’s healing presence. Lent reminds us that faith is a journey, not a sprint. It invites us to walk thoughtfully, pray deeply, and examine our hearts as we move toward the hope of Easter. God often works most meaningfully in the middle — when perseverance,



Clockwise: Past NVC Commanders Dale Kaku, Dale Watanabe and Member-at-Large Danny Ing; Boy Scout 252 Scout Member; and Blaine Memorial UMC Member Dale H. Watanabe.



Jesse Love, Rev. Karen, and Jamie Yates celebrate the Seahawks Super Bowl Victory!



Rev. Karen places a stamp next to her Dad's name while visiting The Ireichō at the National Japanese American Museum in 2024.

reflection, and faith matter most. As Romans 12:2 reminds us, this season is for transformation and the renewing of our minds and spirits.

This season also brings change in our congregation. Pastor Job and Rose Pangilinan began an indefinite family leave of absence on February 1, 2026. We are deeply grateful for their faithful ministry, especially Pastor Job's devoted work with our children and youth. After prayerful discernment, we share that they will not be returning to Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church. We entrust them to God's loving care and hold them in our prayers, trusting Christ to guide and sustain our church.

Amid reflection, our city also shared in joy in early February. Congratulations to the Seattle Seahawks on their recent Super Bowl victory! The celebration reminded us how powerful shared joy can be.

This season of reflection was also marked by the 84th Day of Remembrance for Japanese Americans on February 19 at the Washington State Capitol, honoring the signing of Executive Order 9066 in 1942, which led to the incarceration of more than 125,000 Japanese Americans during World War II. As we honor their resilience, we recommit ourselves to resisting fear, racism, and exclusion. Lent calls us to truth-telling and justice grounded in love.

In that spirit, Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church is honored to serve as a Seattle host site for the Irei Project and the Ireichō Book Project on Friday, March 27, 2026. We are grateful to offer a sacred space for remembrance and participation. Consider volunteering to welcome guests, assist participants, and support this meaningful event.

Speaking of community, our annual Sukiyaki Benefit Fundraiser recently wrapped up, and it truly was an all-hands-on-deck event. This cherished tradition is more than a meal; it is fellowship, heritage, and outreach wrapped into one. Thank you to all the volunteers who cooked, served, set up, cleaned up, and invited friends — your dedication made this year's event a wonderful success. We are also grateful to share that half of this year's earnings will benefit Pacific Northwest flood victims affected by the December 2025 floods.

As we continue our Lenten journey, please mark your calendars for Holy Week:

- **Palm Sunday Worship:** Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m.
- **Good Friday Service** with *Beacon United Methodist Church at Beacon UMC:* Friday, April 3, 7 p.m.
- **Easter Sunday Worship:** Sunday, April 5, 10 a.m.

We are grateful to partner with Beacon United Methodist Church for Good Friday. Sharing worship across United Methodist congregations reminds us that we are one body in Christ, united in the story of the cross and resurrection.

Beloved, in seasons of repentance, remembrance, and celebration, God walks with us. May this Lenten journey continue to shape us into people of courage, compassion, and hope as we move toward Easter. How might God be inviting you to be transformed this season? Join us in worship, service, and fellowship as we journey together toward Easter morning.

The Rev. Karen Yokota Love serves as senior pastor of Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church.



Guatemala Mission Trip Informational Meeting

Learn more on March 22, 2026 — Noon in the Webb Room

Are you interested in going on a mission trip July 31-Aug. 8? Do you have a desire to serve others in a developing country? Are you unsure about going but want to learn more? Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church will again partner with Mission Guatemala to send a mission team to San Andrés Semetabaj, Guatemala. Please join us for a brief informational meeting Sunday, March 22, at noon in the Webb Room.

If you have questions, contact Bob or Donna Sekijima at b_d_sekijima@msn.com or Alice Ikeda at rabbithole1@comcast.net.

Living out our love for God and our neighbors, we're grateful to stand together in San Andrés Semetabaj — serving with Mission Guatemala to support healthcare, education, nutrition, and community growth.

Sign up or donate! Walk for Rice 2026 is coming!

By Justine Ing

The 36th Annual ACRS Walk for Rice will be held at Seward Park in Seattle, May 16, 2026

Blaine Memorial UMC has a special connection to the ACRS Walk for Rice. In 1990, Sam Mitsui, together with Herb and Bertha Tsuchiya, wanted a way for everyone to help feed the community. Team Blaine continues to honor Sam's contribution in helping start the Walk for Rice 36 years ago.

This year's Walk for Rice will be held a month earlier than usual at Seward Park on Saturday, May 16, 2026, at 9 a.m.

The ACRS Food Bank remains one of the busiest food banks in King County, distributing more than 1 million pounds of food annually to about 5,000 clients. More than half of its clients are children younger than 18 or seniors older than 65, and the vast majority of people served by the ACRS Food Bank are low-income. Proceeds from the Walk for Rice allow ACRS to buy many of the culturally familiar foods its clients rely on, such as rice, tofu and

noodles, as well as Asian produce such as bok choy. Last year, Team Blaine raised more than \$12,000 — the highest total we've ever raised — putting us in second place. This year, ACRS hopes to raise \$375,000, and Team Blaine's fundraising goal is \$8,000. You can also support us by walking with Team Blaine at Seward Park on May 16. Visit www.walkforrice.org (you'll be directed to the Walk for Rice event page) and search for "Team Blaine" to donate online and/or join our team as a walker. Thank you in advance for supporting the ACRS Food Bank — every dollar counts!

Justine Ing serves as Captain for Team Blaine during this year's Walk for Rice event!

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Washington state legislators in Olympia recognized Japanese Americans who were incarcerated during World War II and passed a Day of Remembrance resolution to be included in the official journal as a permanent record.

Day of Remembrance 2026 House recognizes JA Internment

By Rev. Karen Yokota Love, photos by Jesse N. Love

Hosted by Bob Hasegawa, D-Tukwila, and Sharon Tomiko Santos, D-Seattle, Washington House paused on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2026, to observe the 84th Day of Remembrance. The ceremony honored 125,000 Japanese Americans incarcerated by U.S. government during World War II. Attendees included camp survivors, members of the Japanese American Citizens League, community leaders, Boy Scout Troop 252, and retired U.S. Army colonels from the Nisei Veterans Committee. Resolutions were read and adopted in both chambers to honor survivors and veterans, including members of 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The observance underscored historical memory, civil liberties, and vigilance against discrimination.

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



The survivors of Japanese American internment attended the Day of Remembrance luncheon at the Capitol Building in Olympia, Wash.



Penny and Frank Fukui were among those who were forcibly relocated and incarcerated during World War II and were recognized by the speaker and other legislators at the Capitol Building.



Reps. Sharon Tomiko Santos and Monica Jurado Stonier presented speeches connecting past and current injustices rooted in failed political leadership and hysteria.



Penny Fukui listens as Cho Shimizu recounts being processed through Camp Harmony during World War II.



Lectionary Readings

bit.ly/lectionary_2026

Spiritual Formation Center

I Am Angry

By Anne Arakaki-Lock

As a United Methodist I am committed to our church's mission to "helping people become devoted followers of Jesus Christ." I value our focus of "loving God and serving our neighbors." I am proud of our commitment to "actively pursue justice and solidarity with the marginalized and acting as a welcoming community." (Read more about Blaine Memorial UMC's Mission and Core Values at <https://blaineonline.org/core/>)

From his hometown of Nazareth, Jesus quotes the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 61:1,2

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind to let the oppressed go free to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4:16-19

With the state of the Union and the turmoil in our streets today, I feel that it is very important to claim our position as a Church, as a Body of Christ. I feel a justified anger towards the hate and violence being promoted by power-hungry "Christians" who are threatening the lives of my new, innocent baby grandchildren. I believe the religious hypocrites are not practicing the Gospel of the Jesus I know.

"Then the King will say... For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger (an immigrant) and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me. Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you? The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers in my name, you did for me...' Matthew 25:35-40 (NIV)

Now, this is the Jesus whom I know.

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

Second Sunday in Lent

Mar 01, 2026

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 12; 1 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

Third Sunday in Lent

Mar 08, 2026

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Mar 15, 2026

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Mar 22, 2026

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Annunciation of the Lord

Mar 25, 2026

Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 45 or Psalm 40:5-10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38

Liturgy of the Palms

Mar 29, 2026

Sixth Sunday in Lent
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

Liturgy of the Passion

Mar 29, 2026

Sixth Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54

Monday of Holy Week

Mar 30, 2026

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11

Tuesday of Holy Week I

Mar 31, 2026
Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36

Wednesday of Holy Week

Apr 01, 2026

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32

Maunder Thursday

Apr 02, 2026

Holy Thursday
Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday

Apr 03, 2026

Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22;

Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42

Holy Saturday

Apr 04, 2026

Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16; 1 Peter 4:1-8; Matthew 27: 57-66 or John 19:38-42

Easter Vigil

Apr 05, 2026

Old Testament Readings and Psalms

Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26; Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 and Psalm 46
Genesis 22:1-18 and Psalm 16; Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 and Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18
Isaiah 55:1-11 and Isaiah 12:2-6; Baruch 3:9-15, 3:32-4:4 or Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 and Psalm 19; Ezekiel 36:24-28 and Psalm 42 and 43; Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Psalm 143; Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Psalm 98

New Testament Reading and Psalm

Romans 6:3-11 and Psalm 114

Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

Resurrection of the Lord

Apr 05, 2026

Easter Day

*Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

Easter Evening

Apr 05, 2026

*Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 114; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49

Second Sunday of Easter

Apr 12, 2026

*Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 161; Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

Third Sunday of Easter

Apr 19, 2026

*Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Apr 26, 2026

*Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 231; Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

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March/April 2026



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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 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.

Ministry Staff Team

Senior Pastor
 Choir Director
 Church School Superintendent
 Pianist
 Office Assistant
 Bookkeeper

Rev. Karen Yokota Love
 Eugene Onishi
 Sai Hanaoka
 Kathy Onishi
 Yuki Sofronas
 Mimi Mar



Lay Leadership Team

Administrative Board
 Staff Parish Relations
 Board of Trustees
 Finance Committee
 Lay Leaders
 Annual Conference Delegates

Brad Miyake
 Arlene Naganawa
 Ron Nobuyama, Brian Okura
 Harry Tang
 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)

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