



## **Rose City Park United Methodist Church January Newsletter 2020**



### **Creating Community with the Rose City Gospel Chorus**

As we enter into a new decade, Kita Montgomery hopes to bring the Rose City Park community together through the Rose City Gospel Chorus. She envisions this group as offering their talents to the local community by performing in a wide range of places from festivals to nursing homes.” In particular, she is praying the choral aspect of singing will bring in more youth.

In her estimation, community singing allows for a blending and bonding that builds up solidarity and morale among those participating. “Our community needs to bond more than before. We’re not as socially connected as we used to be in the past.” She hopes music can rekindle that fire that was once there and thus reunite the love and care for each other.

Kita first came into contact with Rose City Park UMC in the 1990s when she was invited by coworkers and others she knew to contribute her talents for a particular event. “I would sing whatever

song was needed for a funeral, wedding, anniversary, or anything else.” Then in the early 2000s, Pastor Tom Tate asked her to become a member of the church, and she accepted his invitation.

Her first memory of singing in a church service was when she was eight years old and living in Chicago. Mayor Richard J. Daley attended an annual celebration at Shiloh Baptist Church where she was a member.

The church’s choral director Ms. Albertine Guy taught classical signing to the youth along with helping them learn a little piano and other instruments that interested them. Also, she was well versed in both sacred and secular music, and the children benefited from her vast knowledge of different types of music.

From this classical training, Kita explored jazz, and then blues, and finally R&B. When she moved to Portland, Oregon in 1967, she got introduced to gospel groups. From there, she started singing in clubs with her husband, who was her piano player.

Even though she’s well versed in a variety of musical traditions, she’s always been drawn particularly to gospel music. She describes this music as blending the secular with the spiritual. “Some people don’t realize that you must feel your words when you sing. Your words link to your soul and then your soul links to your spirit. When you link all your abilities that God gave you together, a different connotation and feeling of the song comes out.”

As Kita builds together this new gospel chorus, she hopes and prays that everyone who tries to join can keep a tune. However, she feels she can teach anyone to sing. But what she wants to find are people who have an open mind and respect for each other. Ruthanne Bennett will also serve as part of the crew setting up the RCP Gospel Chorus.

According to Kita, their first performance will probably won’t be until February, but she intends to begin practice in January. The first practice is set for Wednesday January 15 at 8:00 PM at Rose City Park UMC.

Those who are interested in lending their voice to the Rose City Park Gospel Chorus should call her at 971-255-1429.



## **New Members to the Single Board of Governance**

The Committee on Lay Leadership and Nominations has been meeting throughout the months of November and December. Before listing the new board members, I wish to thank the retiring members for their dedication and commitment to our congregation. Thank yous go to Chairman, Marchelle Watson; Lay Member to Annual Conference, Linda Hurley; Personnel member, Kim Graham; Finance member, Terry Rudd; and Facilities member, Fred Siebenmann. Your hours and hours of service to Rose City Park United Methodist Church are greatly appreciated.

As we begin 2020 Our Year of Service, Nominations is pleased to announce that Sheryl Shake is assuming the role of Chairman. Joining the board are Co-Chairman, Kay Pettygrove; Personnel member, Meara Espinosa; Finance member, Donna Mathew; and Facilities member, Chris Anderson. As members of the board serve a revolving 3 year term, remaining board members in Personnel are Harriet Jackson and David Whitaker. Remaining on Finance are Lucy Sagoo and Marla McHarque and on Facilities are Larry McDowell and David Ball. Thank you to all for your willingness to assume these leadership positions.

In addition to new board members, Angela Joy Allen and Ray Howard have accepted 3 year appointments to the Committee on Lay Leadership and Nominations. Open still are a 1 year term and a 2 years term. If you would enjoy serving in this capacity, please let Pastor Karen know of your interest.

**2020 Board Chair  
Sheryl Shake**

19100 NE 25th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98684



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Please feel free to reach out to me with any concerns or questions. I look forward to a great year for RCPUMC and our 2020 Year of Service is a great place to start.

## **A Message from The Bishop United Methodists of the Greater Northwest**

*What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by.  
The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out...*

*We saw the glory with our own eyes...  
Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.*

*John 1, The Message*

This morning United Methodists around the world received a word of hope that the strife that has racked our Church might find a peaceful end.

A group of sixteen United Methodist leaders from around the world, who hold a wide range of theological and social convictions, have negotiated protocols for a graceful separation within The United Methodist Church. If adopted by the General Conference in May, the proposal would:

Maintain The United Methodist Church intact.

Allow local churches and annual conferences that choose not to remain affiliated with The United Methodist Church to leave, while maintaining their property, assets, and liabilities.

Commit \$39 million to racial and ethnic inclusion and anti-racism work.

Convene the first session of the post-separation United Methodist Church, perhaps before leaving Minneapolis in May, to create four regional conferences.

Allow for the first session of the newly established North American Regional Conference to act on proposals to remove prohibitive language regarding LGBTQ clergy and weddings. In the meantime, signers to the Protocol have agreed to abeyance on complaints against clergy for related offenses.

While this is not the resolution I hope for, I believe it may be the best next step for the people called United Methodists who have been unable to find a way forward that maintains the unity of the Church. It does not move the Church toward Christ's vision that we "may all be one...so that the world may believe" (John 17:21), but it is a faithful effort "to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3), even as we find it necessary to walk

separate paths for a season.

I trust this proposal is designed to unbind us from our “irreconcilable differences” and free us to focus on the future. It does not guarantee a particular outcome, but it appears to offer United Methodists in the United States the opportunity to choose a future that is fully inclusive of LGBTQ persons.

Please read the attached proposal, asking prayerfully whether it offers Life and Light as we seek to create a new movement of Wesleyan faithfulness in the Northwest and around the world.

May the Life of Christ live in us, and the Light of Christ lead us into the future,

Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky



## **RCP Memorial Scholarship Recipients**

The Rose City Park Memorial Scholarship Committee is proud to announce the award recipients for Winter 2020. These individuals are working hard toward fulfilling their educational goals, and we ask you to wish them well.

Donny Mathew : Western Oregon University and Lucy Sagoo : Reed College

These scholarships were made possible by the generosity of our church members. If you would like to show your support by making a donation or setting up a memorial contribution, please contact the church office.



# ONLINE GIVING

## **On-line Giving Options**

Looking for an easy way to give in 2020? Do you find yourself at church during weekly offering time realizing you forgot your checkbook? No cash on you? You wish there was a simple way to have your monthly giving be as easy as your ebanking bill paying? Our on-line giving solution EasyGive was designed just for you. With a few clicks your monthly giving can be easily deducted from your bank account each week or each month. Any way and any amount you choose.

Access EasyGive via the RCPUMC website, under the tab Donate.  
<https://www.rcpumc.org/donate>.

Any questions contact, Marchelle Watson at 503-866-5193, or via email [marchellewatson@comcast.net](mailto:marchellewatson@comcast.net)

## **New Year, New Building Users**

As January begins, we welcome the Northeast Swap and Play into our space. It is a community play space with open hours to come play, connect with other community members and swap baby and kids items. Tell your friends and neighbors with kids 0-6 years old to come check it out! You can find more info about membership, hours and events including their grand opening January 11th on their website (<https://www.neswapandplay.org>) or Facebook page. They will be primarily using room 2 with trips to Youngson Hall when not in use by other groups.

A couple more notes and reminders:

**DO GOOD REFERRAL NUMBER:** Although we haven't been the host of the Do Good Multnomah homeless shelter for awhile now, we continue to get occasional visits from people looking for Do Good.

Please note that the best way to connect them is their shelter referral number: 503-490-0285 which is posted outside of the office door and outside Youngson Hall door for reference.

DOOR POLICY: Our door system has been working pretty well but it does take some consistency and understanding to keep everyone on the same page.

LOCKED DOOR POLICY A reminder that exterior doors are to remain locked during preschool hours (Monday-Friday from 8:30am-1:30pm) and whenever else possible.

MAIN OFFICE DOOR can be opened during office hours, generally: Monday 9:30-2:30, Wednesday 9:30-12:30, Thursday 9-2. Please note that there is not someone able to open the door at all times so please arrange ahead. If you are hosting an event, please station someone by the door to let people in or provide a contact phone number for someone in the building who can open the door.

UNLOCKING/OPENING DOORS If you do need to unlock doors, it is your responsibility to lock them before you leave. If you open the door for someone not with your group, please ensure that this person connects with their intended program or that they leave the building.

It is our building policy that people do not remain in the building without a specific purpose.

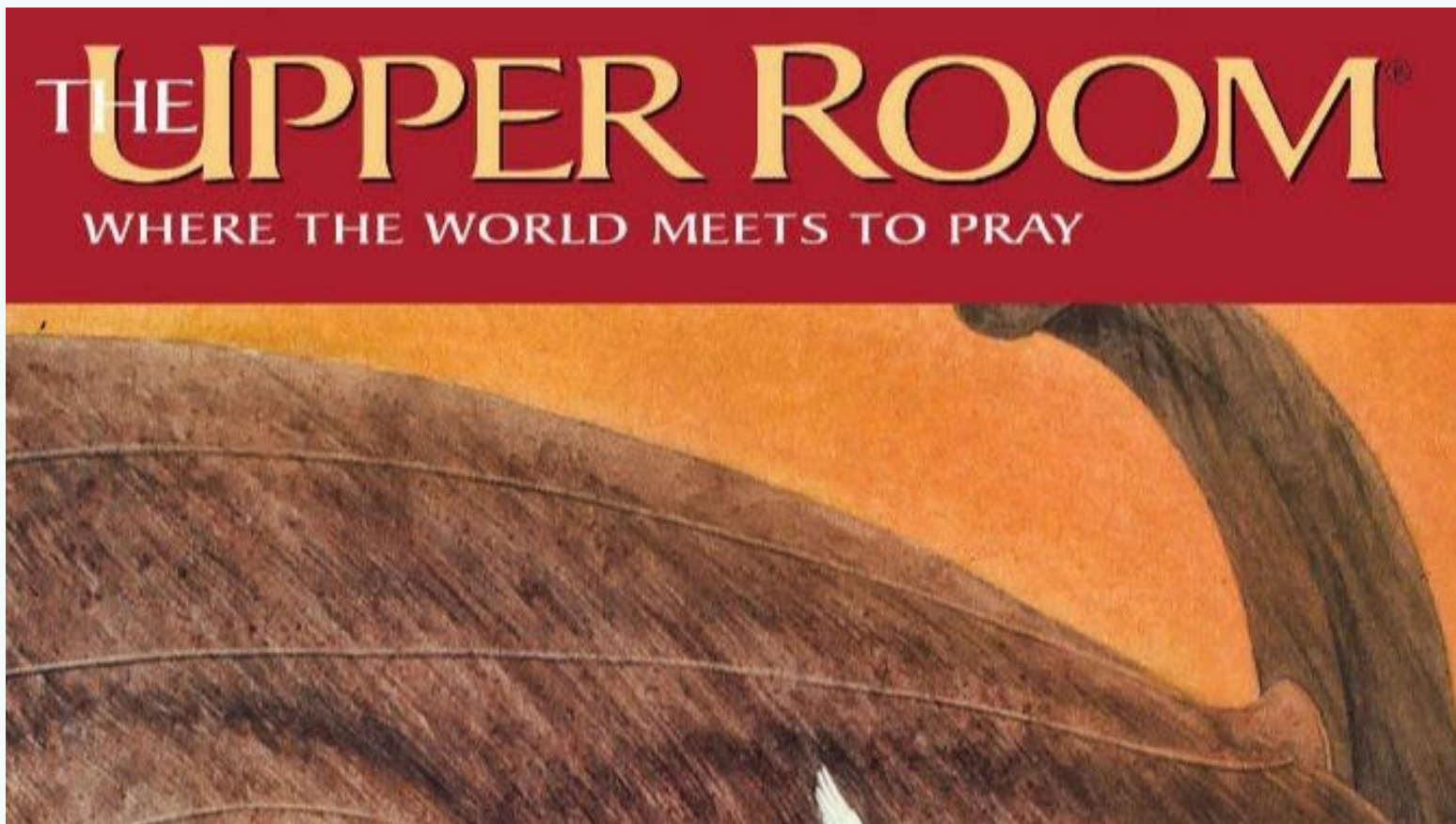


## **Pictorial Directory**

### **Photos taken at Church on 1/12 and 1/19!**

I was hoping to have the directory done and ready to hand out before Christmas, but have received very few responses to my request for pictures. If you want to use your picture from the last directory, just let me know. If you have children, I would strongly suggest you send me an updated one. Feel free to contact me with any questions, or if you need help. Let's see if we can have 100% participation! Thanks,





### **Upper Room Devotionals Are Here**

Many of you grab a copy here at the church, however there are many more still available. For those that may not know, The Upper Room is a Christian organization that is associated with the United Methodist Church that publishes the devotional. So the next time you are in church, feel free to take one or contact the church office.



**UMW Meeting For January 18th!**  
**11:00am to 1:00pm: Meet in the Parlor**  
**Please bring a salad to share**  
**Main dish and Dessert provided**

**January, MLK Day of Service**  
**Monday, January 20, 2020**



**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
**Rose City Park United Methodist Church /**  
**Christ Church**

Let's come together as a community to serve LGBTQI homeless youth on MLK Day of Service. Taking place in January, MLK Day of Service is a "day on, not a day off." Please Sign Up By Email HRC Volunteer Co-Chair Jaclyn Wheatley : [wrstlnprincess@gmail.com](mailto:wrstlnprincess@gmail.com)

**Standing Announcements**

Connect with Rev. Karen — call or text her at 503.412.8899, she is available to meet up!

If you have a prayer request, please send it to [rcpumcprayer@gmail.com](mailto:rcpumcprayer@gmail.com). The entire prayer chain would be pleased to be able to pray for you or a loved for any concerns you might have! Questions? Contact Kay Pettygrove at [kayp1024@gmail.com](mailto:kayp1024@gmail.com).

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