

Wedgwood Community Church

The Wedgletter

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Something for Everyone!



Wedgwood Community Church offers at least two dozen activities to participate in, including classes, study groups, mission projects, and social gatherings. Our church is small but active, and connecting with each other as well as with our Evergreen Association brothers and sisters and neighborhood churches creates a healthy community and produces a positive social impact.

Listed below are the activities. Pastor Sean or a member of the church lay leadership team can answer questions regarding these events.

<u>Missions and Outreach</u>: 4 quarterly denomination mission offerings as well as donations to the University Food Bank and University Churches Emergency Fund (UCEF), Food Barrel, Used eyeglasses, Ryther Ministry, St. Anne's Ministry, Food Packing work parties with area churches, Easter egg hunt, harvest festival, summer neighborhood church parking lot sale.

<u>Church Education Activities</u>: Tuesday morning Bible Study, Wednesday evening Bible Study, Tuesday evening Faith Connections.

<u>Fellowship and Social Activities:</u> Quarterly Games night, monthly Sunday potluck, monthly movie night, monthly Lunch Bunch, annual church picnic, annual special event banquet, Evergreen Association Mariners ballgame, Evergreen caucus fundraisers, Rain City neighborhood parade and ice cream social, music group concerts.

Come, let's get connected!

Ellen Brown











Saturday	Nov 16
Sunday	Nov 17
Tuesday	Nov 26
Saturday	Nov 30

Movie Night
Potluck
Lunch Bunch at Wedgwood Broiler
Christmas Decorating of Church

6:00 PM 12:30 PM 11:45 AM 10:00 AM

PASTOR SEAN'S ARTICLE



At last month's Evergreen Association Annual Meeting, I attended a workshop on mass incarceration as it is experienced in Washington State. What stood out to me the most from that workshop was how inhumanely we treat prisoners. Part of the cruelty is in the aesthetics of prisons. Lights are left on all night. The whole interior and exterior of the building is grey or beige with no color variation. There are no trees, green spaces, or water streams within the prison yards. Everything is intentionally monochrome. If a prisoner has

a window in their cell, it is small and looks out on nothing in particular. Psychologists have noted that such dreary environments alone, not to mention the other horrors of prison, have deep impacts on inmates, such as how their bodies produce and regulate endorphins, the hormones that dictate feelings of well-being. Unfortunately, all of this is deliberately planned and executed for seemingly no other reason than to treat prisoners as less than human.

A related lesson I drew from the workshop was the importance of our physical environments. The spaces we live and work and simply exist in directly translate to not just physical wellness, but also spiritual, mental, and emotional wellness. Our five senses pick up the "vibe" of the spaces we are in and can influence our mood, our sense of hope, how motivated and inspired we are, how creative we are feeling. Put another way, our bodies impact our souls. Surprisingly, Christian theology has not always recognized this to be the case. For centuries it was assumed that our souls were superior to and unaffected by our material bodies. As pleasant or unpleasant as our surroundings may be, the thinking was that our surroundings had no real bearing on things like our ability to will good deeds, our clarity of thoughts, our joy, our creativity, or anything else attributed to the soul. Consequently, within some Christian denominations, worship spaces were stripped bare. All the artwork, smells, bells, and other accoutrements designed for our five senses and meant to enhance worship were seen as needless distractions. Four walls and a roof sufficed as a worship space where our souls could adequately connect to God and be nourished properly.

We now know better. Today, science and theology agree that body, soul, and mind are inextricably woven together. This means that attention should be paid to how we dress up our environments. More care and consideration should go into things like decorations and how we organize the surroundings in our home, our places of work, and our churches. Creating spaces that are bright, positive, inspirational, and pleasing to the senses will lift our souls and deepen our sense of meaning and purpose. In light of this fact, I invite us as a church to together be more hands-on in how we decorate our space. I welcome ideas, feedback, *and* volunteers to help in making our church as aesthetically pleasing as possible.

Pastor Sean

EVERGREEN ASSOCIATION



Be sure to read *Evergreen Notes*, the monthly newsletter of the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches. You can find it online at http://www.ea-abc.org/medianewsletter.html

LAY LEADERSHIP TEAM HIGHLIGHTS



Action Items

- Larry still needs to contact José regarding landscape work.
- Chelsea will need to tweak the information for the **banner** before we order it, in order to make it fit and be more legible.

Evergreen Fundraiser – Pastor Sean will be chairing the Euro-Caucasian Caucus fundraiser, which will take place at Seattle 1st Baptist Church on Saturday, February 29. Titled "The Evergreen World's Fair," which includes a carnival, the entry fee will be \$20 to sample the different foods. The LLT agreed to loan out for the event our ball-and-bottle-toss game, Bingo set, face-painting supplies, and donate our roll of blank tickets for the raffle. Food donations and volunteers to supervise the games will be needed.

Advent Planning – The **sermons' themes** will be based on the primary characters in the birth story. The colors will be red and green and will include the Christmas tree, nativity scene, banners, and the baptistry star. Members are encouraged to bring nativity props for **decorations**. The **decorating of our church** will take place on Saturday, November 30, from 10 am – 2 pm. Friday, December 13, will be the gathering at the church at 6:30 pm when we will exit in cars to **view Christmas lights**. We will return for light refreshments.

Ryther Ministry – there were two children present at the last session. Going forward, sessions will take place on the first Sunday of each month.

Milton Brown

Daily Devotionals



Copies of the current edition of *The Secret Place* and *Our Daily Bread* are available in the narthex. Be sure to pick up one or both of these devotional booklets for a good read.



The Wedgletter has been posted for people to access online at: http://www.wedgwoodchurch.org/wedgletters.html. To hear sermons, click on the Sermons link.



November

- 2 Kim McCormick
- 4 Toshi Moberg
- 6 Nicole Dormer
- 8 April Wallace
- 12 Luke Wallace
- 14 Belinda Tapsoba
- 16 Ron Sillence
- 28 Pauline Kokolo

<u>December</u>

- 2 Lois Wilson
- 11 Danièle Hansen
- 11 Tess Hansen
- 11 Sarah Corey
- 16 Carter Muanda
- 29 Pastor Wim Mauldin

MOVIE NIGHT



Our next Movie Night will be on Saturday, November 16. We will be seeing *Breakthrough*, a 2019 American Christian drama film. We will gather at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall; the show starts at 6:30. Please bring a snack to share. Guests are welcome to enjoy the evening with us.

CHURCH HUMOR







Pastor Johnson is a gifted speaker reaching each member of his congregation in a way that made you feel each sermon was just for you.

BULLETIN BOARD

Opportunities to Support our Greater Community



Just a reminder that used eyeglasses are still being accepted at Woodlawn Optical located at 8032 - 35th Avenue NE. Glenn will then forward them for use by those in need, both in mission areas here in the states, as well as out of the country.

Please continue to "feed" our food barrel. Pickup is the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Check the list below for other things needed besides food. At every pickup, much thankfulness is expressed for our kindness.

Marilyn Potts

Wedgletter Contribution

If you have a personal experience for *Journey Talk*, a book review, or an article you would like to share with us, please let Ellen Brown know by the 15th of the month and submit it to her by the 23rd.



Items Currently Needed

Food

- canned fruit (we never have enough)
- canned chicken, tuna, and salmon
- soups and stews
- peanut or other nut butters (especially crunchy)
- shelf stable milk and milk alternatives
- cereal

Other Items

- reusable shopping bags
- toiletries and hygiene supplies
- fresh produce
- pet food