

April Post

The [2022 Annual Meeting](#) is this month! Please join us online for a one-day business meeting on April 30, followed by worship on Sunday, May 1. The cost will be \$25 for Saturday. The worship is open to all.

Registration is available [online](#) or [by mail](#). The [Budget Packet](#) is available now for you to review and the Report Booklet will be posted April 4th, online.

Quick Links:

Mike's Denton's [blog](#)

[Conference Calendar](#)

[List-view Calendar](#)

[April Celebrations](#)

To view all of the April news, please click: [website](#).

Conference Calendar

If you'd like your committee meeting or event added to the calendar, please send an email to office@pncucc.org.

April

- 1 Admin & Finance Check-in; online; Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ava-tbxs-ysn>; 1-2:00pm
- 6 Courtney's Office Hour; <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/006421246>; 9:30-10:30am
- 7 Westside Committee on Ministry; online; 9:30am-2:30pm
- 7 Justice & Witness Ministries; online; 5:30-6:30pm
- 7 Moderators Check-in; online; <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/333224991>; 7:00-8:30pm
- 8 Admin & Finance Check-in; Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ava-tbxs-ysn>; 1-2:00pm

- 11 PNCUCC Moderator & Board Office 1.5 hours;
<https://washington.zoom.us/j/99953739164> 6-7:30pm
- 13 Courtney's Office Hour; <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/006421246>; 9:30-10:30am
- 13 Church Development Committee; online; 1:00-3:00pm
- 15 Good Friday; Conference office closes at noon

- 17 EASTER
- 19 Board of Directors meeting; online; 6:30-8:00pm
- 20 Courtney's Office Hour; <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/006421246>; 9:30-10:30am
- 21 Moderators Check-in; online; <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/333224991>; 7:00-8:30pm
- 22 Eastside Committee on Ministry; online; 10:00am-2:00pm
- 22 Admin & Finance Check-in; Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ava-tbxs-ysn>; 1-2:00pm

- 27 Courtney's Office Hour; <https://v.ringcentral.com/join/006421246>; 9:30-10:30am
- 28 Personnel Committee; online; 2:30-3:30pm
- 30 PNC-UCC Annual Meeting; online; 9:00am-2:30pm

**“I’d Rather Pull Weeds Than Ask for Money”
Words of Thanks and Praise for Those Who Ask!**

In a few minutes I’ll be leaving for Fox Island UCC, where I’m a member, hoe in hand to pull Shot Weed from our flower beds. Our congregation’s volunteer master gardener, Neeve Norton (who helps keep Pilgrim Firs beautiful!) summoned the faithful to remove this edible but ubiquitous plant before it goes to seed. She hopes that our efforts will give the flowers and shrubs that surround our congregation’s building a better chance to thrive. During the years of my active ministry, I asked hundreds of people to share their time and talent in a thousand different ways. I called on people to engage in tasks ordinary and extraordinary, but the hardest ask was always the same. Dozens of times I heard a refrain that went something like this: “I’ll do anything to help out Pastor except ask for money.” Sometimes these words were expressed with surprising vehemence and not a little anger... Let me offer a few words of thanks and praise to those who did and who do ask for money. Without you I’m not sure our Conference and our congregations or caring institutions would exist. Without you there would be no mission. Without your energy and dedication, the quest for justice would be little more than words. Without your efforts our buildings would not exist, the music would stop, and the praise of the Living One would not have a chance to be heard over the noise of the world.

In Timothy Snyder’s powerful book, *On Tyranny*, one of his points is the absolute necessity of strong independent institutions to prevent tyrants from controlling the future. He says that unless we work together to support institutions with our time and talent; unless we form strong communities with the financial vigor to meet the challenges headed our way, all that is best about the possibility of a just future will wither and disappear.

When I read those words, I could only think about the amazing miracle of people who ask for money and those who respond. Strong and vital congregations, educational institutions committed to the truth, cultural organizations that stretch our creativity and offer visions of justice that challenge assumptions and enlighten. Those who ask and all who give are partners preventing a future where tyrants have their way.

Please remember: Jesus asked, and Jesus still asks and unless we hear that ask as including our financial resources, I’m not sure that we are listening. So, I am grateful! I am grateful for those who join Jesus by asking the rest of us to embrace the godly task of sharing.

Rev. Ron Patterson, for the PNC Stewardship Committee

Transitions

The following are transitions confirmed by the Committee on Ministry in April.

Amy Johnson was unanimously approved for ordination. She has been called to serve as the Minister for Sexuality Education and Justice in the national setting of the UCC, Justice and Witness Ministries.

Rev. Emily Linderman's transfer to the Northern California Nevada Conference was completed. She was ordained in our conference in 2020 but her transfer was delayed.

Terry Rice's ordination paper was accepted, unanimously.

Staff Column

Don't ask me why I did this. I'm not even sure myself. I just know that one year led to me saving the next year's name tag until I had this many. Then we had the year that the



pandemic cancelled out the bulk of the Annual Meeting. It seemed unheard of and scary (the cancelling of the Annual Meeting). Okay – same for the pandemic.

The following year the leaders of the conference pivoted to a plan for an online meeting that could include the whole conference in order to do the business of the conference and keep everyone safe. And then we did it again.

This year seems different. More challenging. More (your word). People are tired. We don't want to see each other divided up into little zoom squares and worry about getting the tech right. We want to see each other face to face. Gently hug, turning our faces to the outward side. We want to share our meals together. We want to roam the brightly lit streets of a beautiful Washington State city with our fellow UCCers in search of a new restaurant or a charming, locally-owned bookstore. Wake up from a restful sleep to worship (in the same room) on Sunday.

Looks like we need to wait for another year to do that.

Yet, I will not miss this year's online version of the PNC-UCC's Annual Meeting. I will be happy to see you there, too, while considering the budget, the nomination slate, glancing at your friends as well as the people you may not know yet, listening to their words. Listening for the committee leaders giving their review of the year. Listening for an update on what began last year. Raising your hand to have your vote counted.

You may not have to find a hotel, drive to the venue, find someone to sit with in a big room. But. We will be there. We will all carry on with the business of the Pacific Northwest Conference and celebrate that we are here doing the good work we are called to do.

I'll be looking for you, and will be happy to join together one more year, even if my name tag is just little type at the bottom of my square.

Arlene Hobson

Conference Staff and member of Keystone Congregational UCC



UCC Earth Week Event: The Faith of Prophets—Lessons for the Climate Crisis

Prophets are needed as much as ever now as our world confronts the climate crisis. Yet, we can no longer wait for others to be the prophets that were needed yesterday. We have to find the prophet in each of us. To answer the urgent call for action today, this special online Earth Week event will focus on what the Hebrew Prophets can teach us as well as what prophetic actions are currently being taken. The event will consist of three parts: an opening keynote, a panel discussion, and a suggested action for congregations to take in their own community. Even if you can't make the scheduled times on Saturday, April 23rd, at 10:30 am for the keynote and 11:45 am ET for the panel discussion, still sign-up, and we will send you a recording. [Register now!](#)

[Hyperlink: <https://bit.ly/FaithOfProphets>]



2022 Summer Adventures

Fun! Faith! Friends! All at N-Sid-Sen Camp and Conference Center, a welcoming Christian community with caring leaders, certified health care and waterfront staff. See the schedule [here](#).



UCC Appeal

The United Church of Christ is issuing an appeal for the people of Ukraine and will be working with global partners to assist vulnerable communities within that country. Read more about the appeal [here](#).



April Celebrations

Best wishes to our clergy and their partners on their special days.

Ordinations

1	Jamie Kepros	12 years
6	Deborah Adams	36 years
14	Courtney Stange-Tregear	9 years
21	Michael Haven	4 years
22	Lara Crutsinger-Perry	4 years
23	Daniel Berg	51 years
24	Susan Yarrow Morris	28 years
29	Joanie Henjum	15 years

Birthdays

2	Shannon Thomas	16	Michael Tomberg	24	Katy Lloyd
4	Lara Crutsinger-Perry	18	Janna Born Larsen	26	Amy Johnson
4	Ed Evans	18	Randy Crowe	26	Penny Matthews
5	Barbara Bennett	19	Davi Weasley	27	Kathleen Morgan
11	Amy Hitchens	22	Donald Mayer	28	Robert Jackson
12	Nancy Edquist	22	John Rogers	28	Jeananne Oliphant
14	Kristine Zakarison	23	Michael Haven	30	Hollis Bredeweg
16	Jeannette Solimine	23	Janet Symonds		

Anniversaries

18	Larry & Mary Ann Winters
26	Linda & Randy Crowe
30	Esther & Josh Sanders