

## December Monthly Packet

### Blessed Advent to All

To all the people of the Pacific Northwest Conference, may you have a Blessed Advent and a Joyful Christmas! It has been a year of great challenges and also inspiration. We are grateful for each one of you who have given generously of your time and spirit to further the work of the conference.

To read the Monthly Packet on our website, click [here](#).

# Conference Calendar

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

*All meetings are online unless otherwise indicated.*

### December

- 4 Annual Meeting Planning Committee; 6:00-7:00pm
- 5 Board of Directors Meeting; 6:30-8:00pm
- 6 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30am
- 7 Moderators Meeting; 7:00-8:00pm
  
- 13 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30am
- 13 Church Development Committee meeting; 1:15-3:00pm
- 14 Westside Committee on Ministry meeting; 9:30am-2:30pm
- 15 Eastside Committee on Ministry meeting; 10:00am-1:00pm
  
- 18 Annual Meeting Planning Committee; 6:00-7:00pm
- 19 Dismantling Racism; 5:30-7:00pm
- 20 Jonna's Office Hour;; 9:30-10:30am
- 21 Personnel Committee meeting; 2:30-3:30pm
- 21 Moderators Meeting; 7:00-8:30pm
- 22 Conference office closes at noon
  
- 25 Conference office closed for Christmas Day

### 2024

### January

- 1 Conference Office Closed
- 3 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30am
- 4 Moderators Meeting; 7:00-8:00pm
  
- 8 Annual Meeting Planning Committee; 6:00-7:00pm
- 9 Church Development Committee; 1:15-2:30pm

10 Jonna's Office Hour; 9:30-10:30pm

## *Advent offerings*

"**Another Starry Black Night**", a Womanist Advent Devotional, by the Unbound Team, a ministry of the Presbyterian Church, USA is available [here](#). Rev. Blackmon and Rev. Dr. Thompson have contributions.

The Pilgrim Press Stillspeaking Writers Group and others have produced a devotional, **Glow**. Also, Join the Movement toward Racial Justice is offering the **Abolition Advent Calendar**. ([more](#))

## Transitions

**Deborah Tyler** is serving as the Designated Pastor at Dayton UCC. Her standing was approved for transfer into our conference at the August meeting of the Eastside Committee on Ministry.

**Adam Ogg**, a clergyperson in the Presbyterian Church, USA, was called to serve as pastor of Congregational-Presbyterian Church in Lewiston. He was installed on November 19th.

At the November meeting of the Committee on Ministry-Westside, **Cydne Cochran** was approved as a Member In Discernment. Her local church is the United Church of Ferndale. **Andy Gill** was granted Leave of Absence status. **Michael Ellick** was granted Transfer of Standing. He is serving as the Minister of Worship and Care at University Congregational United Church of Christ.

All clergy with standing in our conference will be sent the Annual Information Review in January 2024. Please note, clergy with Exempt Standing will receive the form but have the option of choosing whether or not to complete it. Please contact the Committee on Ministry if you have questions.

## The IAF helps clergy and churches

The **Insurance Assistance Fund** Sub-committee of the Conference Stewardship Committee is responsible for allocating assistance to clergy and local churches needing help with the costs of health insurance premiums.

If you would like help in covering the costs of your 2024 health insurance premiums, please contact Pacific Northwest Conference Stewardship Committee member, Martha Baldwin at [mahtha@hotmail.com](mailto:mahtha@hotmail.com) or (206) 948-9799. All information is kept strictly confidential and will only be seen by our group.

Thank you for the service you have offered to the United Church of Christ and we are blessed to be able to offer this assistance.

## *Cornerstone Fund series begins*

In church contexts we sometimes worry that saved money is “just sitting there.” We wonder if it wouldn’t be better, or more faithful, to use these monies for some new ministry or donation. Starting on December 7<sup>th</sup> The Cornerstone Fund will be offering a four-part webinar series called “God Math” to tie all the investing strategies together. ([more](#))

## Big Tent

Our newly elected General Ministry and President shares her thoughts on what is meant when we say, “No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.” She challenges us to live in a “big tent” with all our differences and to practice patience when we have hard conversations. ([more](#))

## *Webinar*

### **Webinar – Lay Ministerial Standing**

This webinar explores the use of Lay Ministerial Standing as outlined in the 2018 Manual on Ministry. Find out if Lay Ministerial Standing differs from licensed or commissioned ministry and the impact of the General Synod resolution.

Register [here](#).



## ***December Celebrations***

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

### ***Ordinations***

Roy Hoover	61 years
Donene Blair	13 years
Jane Sorenson	20 years
Paul Forman	56 years
Amy Furth	29 years
Harold Bergmann	9 years

### ***Birthdays***

Valerie Garrick  
Thomas Riedlinger  
Paul Topper  
Matthew Emery  
Carl Guess  
Lisa Horst Clark  
Chuck Blaisdell  
Rachael Weasley  
Carol Scott-Kassner  
Diane Darling  
Dan Stern  
Jonathan Bliss  
Terry Teigen

### ***Anniversaries***

Debra Jarvis & Wes Van Voorhis  
Judith Bardsley & Paul Topper  
Niutunu & Faaulu Faiupu  
Kaye Hult & Al Torres  
William & Marybeth Maury-Holmes  
David & Lois Brown  
Ronald & Shirley Hutchinson  
James & Barbara Spraker

