



Worshiping God in Christ, Welcoming all, working for justice and peace

Veradale United Church of Christ

The Messenger



"Hold on Just a Little While Longer"

African American Spiritual, Public Domain

Hold on just a little while longer
Hold on just a little while longer
Hold on just a little while longer
Everything will be alright
Everything will be alright

Fight on just a little while longer
Fight on a little while longer
Pray on a little while longer
Every little thing will be alright
Every little thing will be alright

Sing on just a little while longer
Sing on just a little while longer
Sing on just a little while longer
Everything will be alright
Everything will be alright

Hold on just a little while longer
Hold on just a little while longer
Hold on just a little while longer
Everything will be alright
Everything will be alright

MARCH 2021

Thoughts from the Pastor

At this time last year, we were at the beginning of life in a pandemic. No one among us could have imagine that a year later 500,000 Americans would die. The grieving for these lives and for all the ugliness this pandemic has exposed might make it seem like we have been in Lent for an entire year.

Jesus showed us how to make our daily life a spiritual practice. We are a people who pause to worship with prayers, words, and songs that strengthen us to continue in this work. Like the old spiritual says, hold on, pray on, and sing on just a little while longer, everything will be alright. Oh, yes there is a fourth verse. What we know about Jesus is that he practiced all four of these verses in his daily life as he worked on to reveal the Kin-dom of God on Earth.

There is much in need of holding on, praying on, singing on and working on. This year, we have witnessed the physical infection of Covid-19 and the metastasizing cancers of white supremacy and Christian nationalism. We will not forget our country's use of force against those who protested the death of George Floyd. We must not forget that the armed, white Proud Boys showed up to "protect property" at the Spokane Black Lives Matter event. Our sheriff even dismissed the problem of them impersonating law enforcement. We must not forget that this group was among the armed white rioters and terrorists that stormed the Capitol on January 6. The FBI has already arrested one of their leaders from Sandpoint. White folk can no longer deny our nation's systemic tolerance of white violence.

Brené Brown, an American professor, writes and lectures about the importance of owning our stories so the stories don't own us. As Americans, we must own our national story of white supremacy and Christian Nationalism. It is part of our story. It is not all of our story. Owning our history of white supremacy and Christian dominionism gives us the opportunity to choose who we will be moving forward.

This is the practice of Lent. We own our stories. We own that we have fallen short of our best path. We "turn around" from that which separates us from a humble walk with God. We return to the practice of following the way of Jesus.

We have been living what feels like a year of Lent. As the Covid-19 pandemic looks like it is beginning to show signs of becoming controlled, our national cancer of systemic racism still has a long way to go. Dr. Susan Neiman recently spoke to WSU students about how the Germans came to deal with their Nazi past. She said, "Germans did something that no one had ever done even though it was a long and very hard struggle... They said, "Well, yes we did suffer in the war and certainly after the war, but other people suffered more, and their suffering was our fault. "She went on to say, "And no nation has ever done that which is quite important. They haven't done it perfectly. There is still a lot of work to be done." Healing is possible. We own our story, and we choose to hold on, pray on, sing on, and work on until the day when everything will be alright!

Blessings,

Pastor Gen

SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING 'OGHS'

March 21, 2021



We will hold a special offering Sunday, March 21st during worship service for 'OGHS'. This is one of our (5) Quarterly PNC-UCC Missions each year. A special envelope and flyer will be available on the foyer table on that Sunday. If donating by PayPal or Mail please indicate on your PayPal 'Description' or Check 'Memo' the donation is for 'OGHS' so it is recorded in our records correctly. You may also donate in cash but also indicate on the envelope it is for 'OGHS'. Thank you, Joyce

WEEKLY TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER WITH PASTOR GEN HEYWOOD

(Facebook)

Remember we have silent prayer every Tuesday morning from 9:00 a.m. – 9:25 a.m. Pastor Gen Heywood will hold prayers remotely on the Veradale UCC Facebook page.

MARCH COUNCIL MEETING

(Anyone is welcome to attend these meeting)

Our Council Meeting will be held on Monday, March 15th at 7:00 p.m. through 'ZOOM'.

Watch your email or announcements for any additional details. Email or call the office 926-7173 if you wish to contribute any information, concerns, ideas, etc. to the council. Wayne Shull, Moderator.

Approved Monthly Council Meeting Minutes are posted on the Church Website and Bulletin Board in the Hallway.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our **Monthly goal is \$8,800.** We had **\$6,397** in donations towards that goal.

We are tracking our Monthly Goal. If you have questions, email or contact the office at 926-7173.

Offerings

Please, remember offerings can be given through the church website at <https://veradaleucc.org>

There is an orange donate button on the right side of the page.

or

Send checks to Veradale UCC,
611 North Progress

PALM SUNDAY



Join us for Palm Sunday
Worship Service on March 28th at
10:30 a.m. **Palms will be available
Friday, March 26, from 5 pm to
7pm at the south entry door at the
church** for you to have at home. Let
us know if you need them delivered.



Truthful Tuesday

We reject all forms of extremism.
We love our neighbor as ourselves.
We envision liberty and justice for all.

March 9, 2021 from 5 to 6pm

Jerry White

Spokane Riverkeeper

on Facebook Live and Zoom
contact genheywood@gmail.com
for more information

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR APRIL ARTICLES



Please have your information and articles to the office by **Tuesday, March 23rd.**

If you need assistance with your article call or email the office at 926-7173 or veradaleucc@gmail.com. Thx, Joyce

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



MARCH 2021



	1	2 9-9:25 a.m. Prayer-Pastor Gen (Remote)	3	4	5 <u>11:30am-12:40pm</u> The Fig Tree Benefits Virtual Meeting	6
7 Lent 3 <u>10:00</u> -11:30 a.m. Worship w/Communion (Remote-Zoom) Visit with Riverside Church, CA. and Coffee Hour afterwards (Remote)	8	9 9-9:25 a.m. Prayer-Pastor Gen (Remote) 5-6pm @ VUCC Truthful Tuesday Vigil-Speaker is Jerry White (Facebook Live & ZOOM)	10 <u>7:30am – 8:40am</u> The Fig Tree Benefits Virtual Meeting	11	12	13 9:30 a.m. Saturday Coffee Fellowship on (‘ZOOM’)  TURN CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOUR!
14 Lent 4 <u>Daylight Savings</u> 10:30 -11:30 a.m. Worship (Remote-Zoom) Plymouth Church. Worshipping with VUCC (Remote)	15 7:00 p.m. Council (‘Zoom’)	16 9-9:25 a.m. Prayer-Pastor Gen (Remote)	17  St. Patrick’s Day	18 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. FLLC Meeting (Remote)	19	20 First Day of 
21 Lent 5 10:30 -11:30 a.m. Worship (Remote-Zoom) ‘OGHS’ Special Offering	22	23 9-9:25 a.m. Prayer-Pastor Gen (Remote)  <u>Deadline for April</u>	24	25	26 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Pick up ‘Palms’ at VUCC (south entry door)	27
28 PALM SUNDAY 10:30 -11:30 a.m. Worship (Remote-Zoom)	29	30 9-9:25 a.m. Prayer-Pastor Gen (Remote)	31	<p><i>Join us on our Lenten Journey from March 7th – March 21st</i></p> <p><i>Palm Sunday, March 28th, Holy Week and Easter Sunday on April 4th.</i></p> <p><i><u>All are Welcome at VUCC!</u></i></p>		

MARCH - BIRTHDAYS

3/1 – Aly Young - B
3/9 – Ginny Foote – B
3/23 – Teresa Johnson – B

3/24 – Kaye Hult - B
3/29 - Henry Reinhardt - B
3/31 – Hans Krauss - B

Date	Worship Services	Time	Access Services <i>If 'in-person' attending, notify Pastor Gen.</i>
March 7	Visit with Riverside	10:00 a.m.	Join at church or remote
March 14	Plymouth visits us	10:30 a.m.	Join at church or remote
March 21	One Great Hour	10:30 a.m.	Join at church or remote
March 28	Palm Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Join at church or remote

‘REMINDER’

CONTACT PASTOR GEN IF ATTENDING WORSHIP IN PERSON

Please be sure to call or email Pastor Gen each time you plan to attend Sunday Worship service in person. Worship will also be seen and heard on Facebook, Zoom, and Radio Daniel Station 89.3FM (from our parking lot). **Keep flexible about in-person.** We are weighing the risks on a week-to-week basis. We are practicing all COVID responsible protocols. Pastor Gen: 1-408-593-9556 – Cell or 509-919-3768 - Home

Mary Stamp - Fig Tree editor - <https://www.thefigtree.org>
1323 S. Perry St. • Spokane, WA 99202 • 509-535-1813



Join us Virtually in 2021 for:

Lunch-Time Benefit March 5 • 11:30 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.
Breakfast-Time Benefit March 10 • 7:30 to 8:40 a.m.

There are great speakers for this great cause and it happens next week! Let me know if you have questions. Pastor Gen

FRED MEYER'S ‘COMMUNITY REWARDS’ PROGRAM (Remember to Sign Up Online)

VUCC continues as a 501-c3 Non-Profit organization that will receive funds each time someone uses their Rewards Card from Fred Meyer's. Please use the ‘link’ to participate in the program by linking your Rewards Card at

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

You need to use this NPO number LN110 to link to the VUCC organization.

If you have questions, contact the office at 926-7173.

The Lunch-Time Zoom gathering opens at 11:30 a.m., with opportunity to gather in conversation groups with hosts who invite them or with random groups. The approximately 40-minute program begins at noon, followed by returning to groups to donate and converse before a closing, announcing progress toward the goal.

Speakers for the Lunch-Time Benefit are Holocaust survivor Carla Peperzak, Tenants Union-Spokane director Terri Anderson, Dishman Hills Conservancy director Jeff Lambert and NAACP Spokane first vice president Kurtis Robinson.

The Breakfast-Time Zoom gathering begins at 7:30 a.m., also with gathering in groups before the 40-minute program begins at 8 a.m., followed by group time to donate and converse before a common closing, announcing the amount donated.

The Breakfast-Time Benefit speakers are NAACP Spokane president Kiantha Duncan, KPBX host Verne Windham, League of Women Voters member Susan Hales, and naturopathic doctor Toby Hallowitz. **Nathan Slabaugh, who has done benefit videos** in the past, is preparing a video with sharing from Episcopal Bishop Gretchen Rehberg, Calvary Soup Kitchen founder Peggy Troutt, Whitworth history professor Dale Soden, Gonzaga's Hate Studies Institute director Kristine Hoover, AHANA-MEBA founder Ben Cabildo and Spokane Riverkeeper Jerry White.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Please have your information and articles to the office by **Tuesday, March 23rd for our April issue.** Let's continue to get our information out into the church and surrounding communities.

If you need help with your article, contact me by phone or **email** and I will be glad to assist you.

Office: 926-7173 or preferably at email
veradaleucc@gmail.com. Thanks, Joyce

SATURDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Our meeting will be **Saturday, March 13th at 9:30 a.m. through 'ZOOM'**. We will be discussing "*The Buy Nothing Get Everything Plan*" by **Liesl Clark**. Written by a woman in the Puget Sound area, it is about a group of friends who started by reducing their use of plastics, and ended up stating an environmental movement!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84484741101?pwd=NGdmS WJRc0tHVXV1OENoQTIWV1U4dz09>

Meeting ID: 844 8474 1101

Passcode: 432044

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,84484741101#,,,,*432044# US

(Tacoma)

+16699009128,,84484741101#,,,,*432044# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C.)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 844 8474 1101

Passcode: 432044

Find your local

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84484741101?pwd=NGdmS WJRc0tHVXV1OENoQTIWV1U4dz09>

Let me know if you have questions.

Blessings from Becky



Turn clocks **FORWARD 1 hour on Saturday, March 13th at bedtime!**

Don't miss Sunday 3/14 Worship!



We **celebrate all those with February Birthdays.**

Wish we could be together in fellowship with all of you! Hope your Birthdays were wonderful!

Stay Healthy and Safe!

'WELCOME' VIDEO CLIPS

We have started short 'Welcome' Video clips to play prior to our worship services each week. On February 21st we presented our first videos with greetings from Naomi Hanvey, Jerry Brines and John and Maureen Carroll.

If you are interested in participating in any of these videos please contact Pastor Gen so she can schedule a time with you to create the video. These can be in-person or with you in your car.

Gen: 1-408-593-9556 or genheywood@att.net

2021 PLEDGE CARDS AVAILABLE



Pledges continue to come in for 2021 and are greatly appreciated. There are blank Pledge Cards on the foyer table outside the sanctuary along with related letters from our VUCC Council. **If you need the card mailed or emailed to you let me know.** Fill out the Pledge Card and return it to the office by mail or place it in the Sunday offering plate. **You may also email or call in your Pledge at 926-7173 or veradaleucc@gmail.com.**

St. Patrick's Day 2021 occurs on **Wednesday, March 17**, in observance of the death of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. What began as a religious feast day in the 17th century has evolved into a variety of festivals across the globe celebrating Irish culture with parades, special foods, music, dancing, and a whole lot of green.

VOLUNTEER CLEANING OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for volunteer(s) to help with cleaning a few areas of the church. If you are able to help with any of these listed below, please contact Pastor Gen or office, veradaleucc@gmail.com.

*Vacuuming the Sanctuary – Empty Garbage.

*Dust Mopping and/or Sweeping non-carpeted floors in south and main foyers & hallway. Empty garbage.

*Clean Main Bathroom-Sink, toilet, floor, garbage.

*Spiderweb Cleaning

Put garbage into larger Kitchen Garbage Can.

Mardi Bras



We in partnership with the Eastside Gladiators, Temple Beth Shalom, Congregation Emanu-el, and the Faith Leaders and Leaders of Conscience collected for the Volunteers of America's work with women in need.

2180 Tampons
2456 Pads
143 pair of socks
BAGS of toothbrushes and toothpaste
TONS of Toiletries
369 Undies
163 Bras
Bus Passes
Leggings
Slippers
Clothes
20 gloves
9 scarves
11 hats
\$615

HOPE HOUSE 'WISH LIST'

(Every donation gives a woman hope!)
(Our giving at least thru March 2021)

Please hold your VUCC donations at home or contact Hope House (535-3155) to see if they are excepting donations at this time. We will resume our VUCC Collections once we are meeting again at the church.



Socks	Soap
Underwear	Cough Drops
Sugar	Razors
Creamer	Hair Ties
Peanut Butter	Coffee
Tampons	Toilet Paper
Blankets	Milk
Bus Passes	Butter
Shampoo	Breakfast
Cereal	
Conditioner	Ladies
Clothing	
Dog Food & Biscuits	Bras

Prayers of concern for

Prayers for Diane Jeffers as her granddaughter continues to have issues with seizures.

Prayers for Al and Polly Komarek who are having health concerns with fatigue, heart.

Prayers for Stacy, Marvin's caregiver during her grief for her son who passed away.

Prayers for Marilyn Closson as she tries a new asthma medicine.

Prayers for Patty Slater's oldest grandson, Caden who is having challenging times.

Continued prayers for Scott Davies' daughter with her pregnancy and recovering from COVID, Danny for healing in his shoulder, Barb and family in the grieving of her daughter, Ginny.

For all those suffering with emotional and mental stresses during this trying time.



SPOKANE VALLEY FOOD BANK DONATIONS

You may drop off items 8am-4pm (M-F) at 10814 E. Broadway or Mail money to SVP, PO Box 141360, Spokane Valley, WA. 99214. Please, contact SVP directly to arrange dropping off food. **SVP: 927-1153**

MEMBERSHIP STATUS UPDATE

Members of VUCC should have recently received in the mail a Letter from Council Moderator, Wayne Shull with a copy of the approved VUCC By-Laws indicating the different types of available membership status. Enclosed is also a **Membership Information and Status Return Card and Self Address Stamped Envelope**. Please return the card in person or by mail with your membership type and information so we are able to keep our Membership Listing current.

Cards are due by April 1, 2021.

2021 - SEASON OF LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

(Remote and/or In-Person – Depending on COVID Restrictions at the time)

SUNDAY, MARCH 7: Lent 3 Worship 10:00 a.m. Visit with First Congregational Riverside

(Turn clocks forward 1 hour before bed on Saturday, 3/13!)

SUNDAY, MARCH 14: Lent 4 Worship 10:30 a.m. Numbers 21:4-9, John 3:14-21, Make Things Right

SUNDAY, MARCH 21: Lent 5 Worship 10:30 a.m. Genesis 14:17-20, Hebrews 5:5-10, Melchizedek

SUNDAY, MARCH 28: Palm Sunday, Worship 10:30 a.m. Mark 14:1-15:47, Praise and Passion

HOLY WEEK: Monday, March 29th – Saturday, April 3rd.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1: Maundy Thursday – Virtual Last Supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by Tenebrae.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2: Last Words of Jesus 2:30pm to 3pm

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4: Sunrise Service 6:10 a.m. All Family Service 10:30 a.m.

NORTHWEST REGIONAL WOMEN'S RETREAT XIII

NOV 4, 5, 6 2022 Salishan Resort, Gleneden Beach, Or.

We are happy to announce our plans for the next regional retreat to take place at Salishan Resort near the Oregon Coast in **November, 2022**. Even though it is more than a year away, **we would appreciate your help in getting the word out to women at your church** by including a "Save the Date" announcement for us in your member communications and on your church website. We really want women to know we have gone ahead with our plans and have found a truly wonderful venue. Perhaps a statement could be: "Save the Date" for the next Northwest Regional Women's Retreat XIII with the theme "Waves of Peace." We will be gathering at Salishan Resort on the Oregon Coast November 4-6, 2022. Even though a ways off, what a joy to look forward to times of inspiration, connection, and growth. **Information on the website and registration will be coming in the future.** Thank you for supporting us. Sincerely, Carol Kiriluk NRWR Committee



To all who donated the copy paper for VUCC. We are stocked up for a while now. It is greatly appreciated for the quick and generous response to the request for the paper.

Office Manager, Joyce

'BLESSING' BOX

If you know anyone in need of warm knit or crocheted winter hats or scarves let them know we have some in our Blessing Box. There are also socks, gloves and other items. **Take what you need, add what you can.**

Thank you for your continued support of this community outreach.

Questions: Office - 926-7173

Save the dates!

**Our Virtual Annual Meeting of the
Pacific Northwest Conference UCC will be
April 30 - May 2.**

Watch for more information to come!

FEBRUARY 2021 PICTURES

Drive through Rosa Parks Birthday party on Thursday, February 4th, Rosa's 108th birthday.



So many gifts for Rosa, all going to the MLK Center.

Freda Gandy, Director of the MLK Center, with Don Young as they bring in the gifts for Rosa.



Gifts for MLK Center



Mardi Bras, February 13, Veradale Team



Decorating for Mardi Bras



A full Truck to go to VOA



So much generosity!

Thank you for all the generous donations and help with these events!

**VERADALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
611 N. PROGRESS ROAD
SPOKANE VALLEY, WA 99037**

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Facebook: facebook.com/Veradaleucc

Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Join us on Zoom, Facebook & (Radio 89.3- from the Parking Lot) and open for 'in person' attendees by contacting Pastor Gen prior to each Sunday date per Covid-19 safety regulations of arrangement of chairs and spacing.