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The Communicator

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**The deadline for the January, 2018
issue of *The Communicator* is
Monday, December 18, 2017.**

To Contact Us:

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We're on the web

www.eagleharborchurch.org

Like us on Facebook!

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am - 1pm

The Communicator

All the (Church) News That's Fit to Print
Eagle Harbor Congregational Church, UCC

December, 2017



Angels Among Us

Are there angels among
us? What do you think?

There are certainly a
wide variety of beliefs about angels,
even (especially?) among Christians. A
light-hearted song written by a friend of
ours, Tom Hunter, says "Angels are mes-
sengers to pass the word along/ in a sto-
ry or a dream, in a dance or song./ With
blessings from far away, with messages
from God/ Depending on what you be-
lieve, they're real or cute or odd." As I
tell you we are going to be considering
"Angels Among Us" during our Advent
and Christmas season, you might be de-
lighted, or aghast, or intrigued. Depend-
ing on what you believe.

During December we'll hear the sto-
ries of several angels we have in the gos-
pels in the Christmas narratives, and sing
some angel songs, and invite your angel
figurines to come and visit our crèche if
you would like to loan them out for the
season. We'll attune ourselves to mes-

sages of hope, peace, joy and love that
fall on our ears between Sundays.

Often people use "angel" language to
point to people or other beings who
have been helpful or comforting or in-
spiring to us—even if we are pretty sure
they are mere mortals. We'll be thinking
about that as well, looking for angels
among us who are conveying messages
of hope, peace, joy and love—whether
or not they think of themselves as mes-
sengers for the Divine. *(cont. on pg. 3)*

Prayer Chain

*Call any one of us with your
prayer requests and concerns:*

Linda Swolgaard, 842-3338

Ann Lovejoy, 842-0108

Jennifer Merrill, 780-6937

Tonya Keaton, 852-4817

Eileen Nicol, 842-1245

Dianne Speers, 855-9446

Marian Rees, 842-4621

Questions About Angels

Of all the questions you might want to ask about angels, the only one you ever hear is how many can dance on the head of a pin.

No curiosity about how they pass the eternal time besides circling the Throne chanting in Latin or delivering a crust of bread to a hermit on earth or guiding a boy and girl across a rickety wooden bridge.

Do they fly through God's body and come out singing?
Do they swing like children from the hinges of the spirit world saying their names backwards and forwards?
Do they sit alone in little gardens changing colors?

What about their sleeping habits, the fabric of their robes, their diet of unfiltered divine light?

What goes on inside their luminous heads? Is there a wall these tall presences can look over and see hell?

If an angel fell off a cloud, would he leave a hole in a river and would the hole float along endlessly filled with the silent letters of every angelic word?

If an angel delivered the mail, would he arrive in a blinding rush of wings or would he just assume the appearance of the regular mailman and whistle up the driveway reading the postcards?

No, the medieval theologians control the court. The only question you ever hear is about the little dance floor on the head of a pin where halos are meant to converge and drift invisibly.

It is designed to make us think in millions, billions, to make us run out of numbers and collapse into infinity, but perhaps the answer is simply one:



We'll enjoy an afternoon tea together; we hope this will make it easier for those who hesitate to drive at night to participate. **Bring a few treats to share and a favorite Christmas story to read aloud. Contact the church office if you would like to carpool from Bainbridge.**



◆ Christmas Eve:

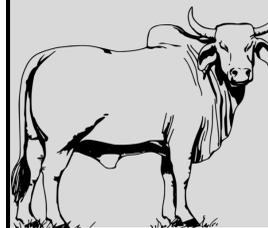
- **9:30am:** We conclude our Advent Angels Among Us worship series, this fourth Sunday focusing on More Love.
- **7pm:** This service is family oriented, with an opportunity for children to build a felt-board nativity scene. The choir joins us for lots of Christmas carols.
- **10pm:** This service is more contemplative, with a Christmas story, Christmas carols, and Communion.

- ◆ **Thank you!** Many thanks to all who donated to the Church World Service hygiene kit project for Puerto Rico disaster relief. And thank you to all who showed up to assemble the kits! We had a great intergenerational potluck and then we assembled **80 kits** which will soon be received by those who desperately need them.

December Caring Coins

Heifer International: Gifts that Change Lives

Heifer International works in areas of livestock and agriculture to develop programs that alleviate hunger and poverty. This year let's create a better life for a farming family in one of the poorest parts of the world with the perfect gift—**the Water Buffalo**. A farmer with a Water Buffalo may be able to plant four times more rice than when done by hand—generating more income to use for clothing, medicine, schools and home improvements. Plus, the water buffalo's rich, nutritious milk is a source of both nutrition and income. The gift of a **Water Buffalo** costs **\$250**. As always, checks may be made payable to EHCC with "Heifer" in the memo line. Help collect the needed amount to make this purchase. Our **Water Buffalo** is a big gift with an even bigger impact.



(Mostly) All Things Christmas →

- ◆ **Volunteers Needed!** Our all-ages Christmas pageant is happening on **Sunday, December 10, during worship.** We are doing *A Charlie Brown Christmas!* Our **one rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 9, at 4pm.** If you would like to be involved (behind the scenes or on the stage) **contact Jessica, jessicatarrockers@gmail.com, 206-890-2872.** We would love to have everyone—kids to elders and all those in between—join us!
- ◆ **Eisenhauer Christmas Open House:** All are welcome to a Christmas Open House at Dee and John’s home (9414 Green Spot Pl. NE) on **Sunday, December 17.** Come by **any time between 1-5pm** We’ll share some treats, and those who wish can see how many crèche sets they can find around the house. (We’ll keep the Seahawks game on in the media room for sports fans.) Come for 10 minutes or the whole afternoon. **We look forward to hosting you!**
- ◆ **Hungry Readers:** Our Hungry Readers book group is taking our Christmas party on the road so we can include Joan Pratt, who hosted our Christmas gathering for many years before moving into assisted living. **We will meet at 2:30 Monday, December 18 at Martha & Mary in Poulsbo** (Joan is arranging a meeting room). *(cont. on pg. 7)*

Christmas Giving Tree for Mary’s Place:

Collecting gifts for the Giving season begins early at Mary’s Place in preparation for their Holly Jolly Holiday Party on December 19. Tags are now hanging on the tree in the narthex for your selection. **Please take one or more tags from the tree, purchase the item(s) and place them *unwrapped* (with tags attached) under the tree by Sunday, December 10.** The **dollars-for-shoes (which you should give to Jennifer in the office for safe-keeping)** make it possible for Mary’s Place to give everyone attending the Holly Jolly Holiday Party a gift card for new shoes, and the gifts make it possible for the kids and Moms to select gifts for each other at the Santa Store. We can help women, children and families who are experiencing homelessness share in the joy of giving and receiving this season. (FYI: The number of families utilizing Mary’s Place services has doubled this year!) **Your generosity is appreciated!**

one female angel dancing alone in her stocking feet, a small jazz combo working in the background.

She sways like a branch in the wind, her beautiful eyes closed, and the tall thin bassist leans over to glance at his watch because she has been dancing forever, and now it is very late, even for musicians.

—Billy Collins



Please Keep in Your Prayers:

Leslie Amendt, Benjy Cunningham, Peggy Houck, Tom Jorza, Joan Pratt, Linda Purdy, Marian Rees, Stephen and Noyuri Soderland, Rene Zimmerman



Angels Among Us *(cont. from front cover)*

My favorite film featuring wings,/ Playing harps and being white and angels is “Wings of Desire.” smiling while they sing./ But maybe they wear clown clothes, do laundry or wear boots,/ And maybe there’s an angel sitting next to you.” The chorus of the song says, “Angels might be anywhere at all/ Listening, gossiping, anywhere at all./ On a cloud or a rooftop, climbing up the wall,/ Angels might be anywhere at all.” Do you think that’s true? Come and join us for worship as we encourage each other to pay attention to the angels who might be anywhere at all.

Another verse of Tom’s song says, “We mostly think of angels with halos and with

—Peace, Dee

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

12/31 1st Sunday after Christmas/#morelife
 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Sanctuary
 Worship/SS 9:30am
 EHCC Hosts Super Supper 3-7pm FH, K
 No Youth Group
 AA (women's mtg.) 7:30pm S

Abbreviation Key:
 FH: Fellowship Hall K: Kitchen
 S: Singer Room
 AA: Alcoholics Anonymous
 OA: Overeaters Anonymous
 SS: Sunday School Birthdays in italics
 Church events in bold

EHCC
December, 2017

1
 Madrona
 1:30-8pm FH

2 OA 9:15am S
 Madrona Craft Fair
 all day FH, K

3 1st Sunday of Advent/#morehope
 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Sanctuary
 Worship/SS 9:30am
 Family Wreath-Making
 during Sunday School/coffee hour
 Yes Youth Group 6:30-8pm
 AA (women's mtg.) 7:30pm S
 Karen Sjolseth



4
 Leona Freeman

5
 Bible Study 9:30am
 Dee's office

6 Madrona 9-11am FH
 Bible Study 7pm
 Dee's office
 Piano Recital 7pm Sanctuary
 AA (men's mtg.) 7:30pm S

7
 Men's B'fast 7am FH
 IFC 6:30pm FH, K
 Choir Rehearsal
 7pm sanctuary

8
 Madrona
 1:30-3pm FH

9 OA 9:15am S
 New Life 7:30am-1pm
 FH, K (tent.)
 Xmas Pageant Re-
 hearsal time 4pm
 Youth Group Over-
 night
 Olga Macferran

10 2nd Sunday of Advent/#morepeace
 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Sanctuary
 Worship/Christmas Pageant
 No Youth Group
 AA (women's mtg.) 7:30pm S
 Leslie Gordon



11
 Whose Land Are We On?
 7-8:30 pm FH
 Transfriending Group 7pm S
 John Lunt

12
 Bible Study 9:30am
 Dee's office
 Peace Café 6-8pm FH
 Mei Wilson

13
 Madrona 9-11am FH
 Bible Study 7pm
 Dee's office
 AA (men's mtg.) 7:30pm S

14 Men's B'fast 7am FH
 Choir Rehearsal
 7pm sanctuary

15
 Madrona
 1-3pm FH
 Party Set-Up in the
 pm, FH

16 OA 9:15am S
 Ovation Holiday
 Community Sing-a-Long
 1-2pm sanctuary
 Private Party
 4-7pm FH, K
 Marian Thackray

17 3rd Sunday of Advent/#morejoy
 Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Sanctuary
 Worship/SS 9:30am
 Yes Youth Group
 AA (women's mtg.) 7:30pm S



18
 Hungry Readers 2:30pm
 @ Martha & Mary's
 Communicator Deadline

19
 Madrona FH & K all day
 Bible Study 9:30am
 Dee's office

20
 Madrona 9-11am FH
 Bible Study 7pm
 Dee's office
 AA (men's mtg.) 7:30pm

21 Men's B'fast 7am FH
 Choir Rehearsal
 7pm sanctuary

22

23 OA 9:15am S

24 4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve
 #morelove
 Worship 9:30am, 7pm, 10pm
 No Youth Group
 AA (women's mtg.) 7:30pm S



25 Chirstmas Day
 Dawn Haslanger



26
 Super Supper 3-7pm FH
 Larry Barrett

27
 Madrona 9-11am FH
 AA (men's mtg.) 7:30pm

28 Men's B'fast 7am FH
 Super Supper 3-7pm FH
 Choir Rehearsal
 7pm sanctuary
 Christian Barrett
 Rose Bowen

29
 Super Supper
 3-7pm FH

30 OA 9:15am S