



SEATTLE
SERVICE
CORPS

"Deepening lives through volunteer service, social justice, spiritual practice, and intentional community."

Thank you for donating to our Blossom Abundantly Fundraiser!



Hello Again!

Welcome to your second of three newsletters from the 2020-2021 Seattle Service Corps! We are so very thankful for your generous donation and we are so excited to keep you updated about what we've been up to! In this newsletter, you will find stories, musings, and lessons gained from our experiences in Seattle,

introductions to a few of our corps member's service placements, as well as one of our favorite recipes we've made for our community meals. We hope you enjoy it!

*Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions you might have by emailing
servicecorps@saintmarks.org*

www.saintmarks.org/ssc



Seeing a New City with a Mask on

Caroline

Never even visiting Seattle before, it was strange to move to a new city with a mask on. There are still days where I find myself somewhere completely new. Simple questions like: what's your favorite restaurant, what did you do this weekend, have you been to *insert neighborhood here* yet become a firm reminder that there is so much unexplored by this specific corps year. But it is in staying home that has let us enjoy simple pleasures as big things. Watching movies, doing a puzzle, and calling loved ones brings so much excitement into our days! It also means when someone gets the opportunity to explore or even get to go to a restaurant it is an absolute event. Spending time with my coworkers outside of work becomes the highlight of the month, and it brings pause and reflection into how important those connections are. Real human connection in a city that only knows the top half of my face. The absolute delight of attending my first service at St. Marks, knowing that there are so many more people in the parish that are supporting and praying for our program. While Seattle may only know me from the bridge of the nose up, my housemates know my smiling face underneath the mask and I think Seattle knows it too.



Hygiene During a Pandemic

Kylee

Operating a hygiene center during a global pandemic can prove to be more than a little challenging. Jumping into my service year, I wasn't sure how everything would work out. When I received my placement at Immanuel Community Services (ICS), within their Hygiene Center, and was told I would be one of the four essential workers in this year's corps, I was a little anxious. On one hand I was ecstatic at the thought of helping the Seattle community while finding a deeper connection with my faith, but how could this be possible? Well, I quickly found out that the pandemic complications can be simplified by three simple ingredients: physical distance, mask wearing, and quick laughter. While helping guests of the hygiene center fill out online applications from six feet away had merit for laughter on its own (picture two people yelling across a table and barely making the other person out), it was a pleasant surprise how often and how quickly I found people to laugh with at ICS.



Exploring my faith through nature

Taylor

I've always been drawn to nature, ever since I was a wee little girl. I spent hours and hours outside with my friends, whether it was playing soccer, goofing off, or climbing trees. I kind of lost touch with my sense of adventure when I moved to a new city to attend college. Don't get me wrong - I am a total city girl, as well. I loved the years that I spent immersed in the hustle and bustle of city life, but I always had an inkling that I should be somewhere more outdoorsy. When I made the decision to come to Seattle, I

expected to like it here because of the many stories I'd heard, but I never expected to feel so grounded in an unfamiliar place, so far away from the familiarity of family and friends. Living in Seattle has allowed me to not only reconnect to my adventurous spirit but also to discover new sides of myself that I hadn't yet fully uncovered. In the past few months, I've frequently asked myself why I feel so energized, whole, and calm after spending time in nature. I don't know if I have an answer and that's okay - what I do know is that God is present there and wherever God is, there is peace.

SSC Recipe! Lavender Rosemary Bread

Amanda

Everywhere I look as I explore this city, I'm greeted by huge bushes of blooming rosemary! I had no idea it could be so beautiful, and was inspired by the pastel colors and blossoming flavors to make this bread for Easter season. This recipe was adapted from www.aliikulalavender.com

- 2 1/3 c wheat flour + 2/3 c white flour
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbs finely chopped fresh rosemary, plus extra for garnish
- 2 tsp dried lavender, lightly chopped/ground
- 1 1/4 tsp kosher salt, plus extra for garnish
- 3/4 tsp coarse ground black pepper
- 1/2 tsp active dry yeast
- 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 c water, room temp
- 2 Tbs cornmeal
- Olive oil, for coating pan (I used a California oil infused with lavender)



To prepare: Combine the first seven ingredients in a large bowl. Using your hand, add water and mix until a wet, sticky dough forms; add by the tablespoon after initial 1 1/2 c. Cover bowl tightly with plastic wrap and let stand at room temp for 18 to 24 hours. Lightly oil a cast iron/steel pan; sprinkle with cornmeal. Lightly flour your hands and gently shape into a round. Place dough into the prepared pan; cover with a clean cloth and let stand at room temp about 2 hours. Preheat oven to 450°F. Garnish loaf with rosemary and salt; place into the oven and bake 30 to 40 min. **Happy eating!**

Tips: Try a warm slice with some lemon-infused honey or your favorite nut/seed butter!

Job Introductions



Grace- Mercy Housing Northwest

Mercy Housing is the country's largest affordable housing non-profit. In addition to providing permanent affordable housing to many families, Mercy also provides its residents with additional support services including food security,

healthcare, case management, and education. I am so happy to be a part of the resident services team as the Early Learning Access Coordinator at three different properties. In this role, I connect families to various early learning programs and resources, assist with kindergarten and preschool enrollment, develop early childhood programming for families to participate in, focusing on early literacy and childhood development, and establish relationships with local early childhood organizations, including other non-profits, learning centers, and public schools. My favorite part of the job is facilitating a weekly Kaleidoscope Play and Learn (KPL) group for residents. KPL is a program designed to educate, empower, and connect family, friend, and neighbor caregivers of children aged 0-5 through weekly play groups. I am so lucky to be a part of the Mercy Housing team this year!



Stephanie- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project & The Diocese of Olympia

Stephanie works from home, alternating her days between two service sites: Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP) and the Diocese of Olympia. For both sites she creates and schedules social media content.

Stephanie also edits and produces video content for social media and stock footage projects. Her favorite part of her work is getting to meet with her coworkers over Zoom.

Featured Photos:

April

In early April, my fully vaccinated parents were able to visit me in Seattle! We went to a lot of the touristy places at Seattle Center--the Space Needle, Chihuly Garden and Glass, and the Museum of Pop Culture--as well as Pike Place Market, and I showed them around the Capitol Hill neighborhood. it was so much fun.



We hope you enjoyed our second newsletter! Before you leave, we would like to share the bible verse that inspired this fundraising campaign-

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.

— Isaiah 35:1–2a

Follow us on social media!



<https://www.facebook.com/Seattle-Service-Corps-1517338125248507>



<https://www.instagram.com/seattleservicecorps/>



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

www.saintmarks.org/ssc