

Dear NU Community,

I wrote my thoughts for this Look Ahead last week, but today, we all woke up to the horrific news of the shooting in Las Vegas, NV. I'm sure you don't need me to tell you that the people affected by this tragedy need our prayers. Let us pray that God will comfort all who mourn, heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds, and swiftly bring His peace. I am reminded of the words from Charles Wesley's well-known hymn, "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus":

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.*

Please join me in praying for release from fear and the comforting presence of the Lord in the lives of all who are shocked and grieving today.

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Last week, I was profoundly impacted by our NU Loves Kirkland Serve Day. I want to give a huge shout out to the Campus Ministries team for their organization of this event, especially Sam Absten, our Local Missions director, as well as Pastor Christian Dawson and Megan Netherton. Their efforts are greatly appreciated, but it was the involvement of the whole NU community that really made this event the incredible success that it was. Over 460 students, faculty, and staff members gave up an hour of their time to love the city. I have heard a lot of wonderful feedback, but one comment really stood out to me. A student shared with me about the highlight of the event for her, and she said, "I made new friends from our international community today". Several others have agreed that the event not only helped the city of Kirkland, but it also helped people make new connections and friendships with each other at NU.

I am reminded of the passage of Scripture in Luke 10:25-39. Jesus was asked by an expert in the law how to get to heaven. Jesus replied, "Love God and love your neighbor". The lawyer asked another question: "Who is my neighbor?" -- to which Jesus gave us the parable of the Good Samaritan. Loving your neighbor is loving those who do not look like you, act like you, think like you, or even...believe like you. I think we loved our neighbors this past week.

*Jesus, I pray that the Northwest University community will continue to love well. Wherever we are, help us to be people full of grace, filled with your Spirit, and demonstrating love by our actions to others. Amen.*

### **COMING UP THIS WEEK**

**Mon, Oct 2** | Chapel: Liz Mena | Butterfield Chapel, 10 & 11:20am

**Mon, Oct 2** | Pursuit | Butterfield Chapel, 8:30pm

**Wed, Oct 4** | Chapel: Janet and Troy Weiss | Butterfield Chapel, 10 & 11:20am

**Wed, Oct 4** | Faith in Society Lecture: Janet and Troy Weiss\* | Butterfield Chapel, 7pm

**\*Spiritual Life Credit Offered**

**Fri, Oct 6** | Chapel: Eugene Cho | Butterfield Chapel, 10 & 11:20am

Blessings,

**Phil Rasmussen, M.A.**

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