

AUG
2010



Yes, Change Is Coming

By Rev. Ralph Kieneker

Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews... To those not having the law I became like one not having the law so as to win those not having the law... I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. (1 Corinthians 9:19-20a,21,22b-23),

These are probably not words too many of us have hanging on our walls or earmarked in our Bibles. They are daunting, challenging, and in practice very, very difficult. But, I believe the attitude expressed in Paul's testimony is the very place God is challenging us to grow in our life together as West Side.

Over the past number of months we have been discussing God's call on our church family. While our general call is clear: Loving God, Loving People, Serving the World in the Name of Jesus; through the REVEAL Survey, Session work, small group discus-

sions, informational meetings and a congregational meeting, we have been working to discern and affirm God's call on our next steps.

One of the goals we have affirmed is:

We want to advance beyond struggling to meet the needs of young families with kids to dynamically meeting their needs and attracting and retaining new young families with kids.

In an effort to do this we have identified the need to:

Make Sunday Morning more beneficial to the needs of "Today's" Young Families with Kids and New Believers.

Some people have asked, "Are 'today's' young families really any different?" I believe the answer to that question is, "yes." Our culture has gone through some very dramatic changes in the last forty years. America is

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Lots To Smile About

West Side Preschool, after the faithful service and retirement of long-time director Cathy Jones, has two new co-directors: Ann Campbell and Patty Grandy. They are looking forward to serving the children of West Side and the community. Welcome, Ann and Patty!



A Passion For Ministering To Children

Celebrating Intern Rebecca Datin and Welcoming New CFM Staff



Rebecca

Colleen

We are excited about how the Lord is leading Children and Family Ministries (CFM) at West Side Church. Over the past 18 months, families and children at West Side have been blessed by Rebecca Datin, our CFM Intern. Rebecca has a passion for ministering to children and has been a gifted administrator for our CFM programs. This month, she will complete her internship here and plans to continue

working with children, either in Early Childhood Education or as a nanny. Rebecca's last Sunday is August 29—make sure to thank her for her ministry with us! We are praying for God's guidance for her as she discerns her next step.

Starting Sept. 1, you will begin to see more of Colleen Strachan, wife of Youth Pastor Stuart Strachan, as she steps into a newly-created position: the Children and Family Ministries' Associate. She will be working under Heather Smith as a program administrator and helper for CFM; this summer you may have seen her training as an assistant for CFM programs and helping with planning for the fall. Stop by the office to welcome her next month!

Summer Fun With Trainees

This summer Carrie Dotson, Margaret Lahmeyer and Kyle Schlahta, our CFM trainees, blasted off with a treasure hunt on Jun. 30. The kids searched for pieces to a Bible passage, discovered hidden treasure, and gathered loot.

We had a lot of fun learning about the parable of the unforgiving servant (Matt. 18:21-35) and getting to know each other. Our tea party on Jul. 7 was also a resounding success. The afternoon included tasty treats, fun games, and a marvelous, adventure-filled fox hunt. We went gleaning at a community garden and had a crazy dress-up day. For our preschool play dates in the park on Thursday mornings, we have used a Rainbow color theme. We have already had **red**, **purple** and **yellow** play dates at Leslie Groves Park and a **blue** water day at the church. All days have been filled with fun and fellowship for the kids as well as their parents. On Sunday mornings, Promised Land kids (gr. 1-5) have been learning about Bible heroes on a mission from God like Deborah, Gideon, and Samson.

Our upcoming events are:

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- Thurs., Aug. 5, 10:00 am, WS North – **Green** day (preschoolers)
- Fri., Aug. 6, 6:00 pm, WS North – Family BBQ (and Lock-In for gr.3-5)
- Wed., Aug. 11, 2:00 pm, WS North – Wipe Out (gr. K-5)
- Thurs., Aug. 12, 10:00 am, WS North – Rainbow day (preschoolers)
- Wed., Aug. 18, 2:00 pm, Renee Root's house – Pool party (gr. K-5)
- Thurs., Aug. 19, 10:00 am, WS North – **Orange** day (preschoolers)

Ongoing: Sunday mornings 9:45-10:45 am – Sunday School for Rainbow Kids (3-5 yr olds) and Promised Land Kids (gr. 1-5) at WS North. Childcare is available all morning from 8:00 am-12:30 pm for newborns-5 year olds in WS North.

Questions about summer events, Sunday School or Childcare - contact Heather Smith.



Carrie

Kyle

Margaret

CFM Trainees

Just Around The Corner

New This Fall: Children's Church

Fall is just around the corner and changes are in the works for Children and Family Ministries. We would like to kick-off Children's Church during the early Contemporary service starting in September. The planning committee is seeking people to plan and lead during the year. Interested - call Kim Tucker (628.2500) or Heather Smith (946.4656).

What Am I Doing Here?

Fall Alpha Courses Coming Soon

Alpha Prayer - come pray with us! Two 1-hour inter-church prayer meetings on Wed. at 7:00 pm in view of fall Alpha courses in the Tri-Cities: Aug. 11 at Central Church (chapel) and Aug. 25 at West Side South (Upper Room). "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matt. 7:7).

"If God did exist what would you ask?" Come hear a talk and enjoy a great meal at the fall Alpha introductory dinner Tues., Sept. 21, 6:15 pm, WS South Upper Room. Call the Church Office (946.4656) or Karel Coppock (943.5565) to reserve a place. Invite a friend!

Alpha Help Needed. This fall we are planning to invite previous Alpha guests to a "Beta" course in the Sermon on the Mount (new talks by Nicky Gumbel). We wish to give our faithful kitchen team the opportunity to sit down, enjoy the meal, and join in a discussion. That means we will need extra help in probably the last phase of the kitchen work: clean-up (and might need help preparing the meals, too). Contact Sue Finch (539.4165 or suefinch@clearwire.net). Know someone who's been through Alpha and would enjoy Beta - contact Karel.



Don't Miss This!

Fun Family Fellowship Events

Movie Night! Grab some pillows! Kids, come in your jammies! We will be gathering on Fri., Aug. 13, 7:00 pm in WS North for a movie for all ages to enjoy! We'll have popcorn and lemonade for pre- and post-watching pleasure. Feel free to bring other snacks to share (remember - no nuts or nut products at WS North).



Tailgating and Dust Devils' Game on

Fri., Aug. 27, 6:00 pm. Join us for Faith Night at GESA Stadium. Tailgating with the Sanders' before the game - bring fun finger foods to share! It is also Family Feast Night at the park: \$1 hot dogs, French fries, Coke products, and ice cream sandwiches ALL NIGHT! Tickets only \$7 - contact Jim and Karen Sanders (783.0254) or Dennis da Silva (Dust Devils 544.8789).



We hope you join us for one or both of these fabulous events with your West Side Family!!

Senior Adult Ministry

Person To Person lunch on Mondays, 12:00 pm, WS Activity Center: Aug. 2, 16, 30.

SAM (Senior Adult Ministry) lunch out on Mon., Aug. 23, 11:30 am, Magill's (3214 Road 68 - Pasco).

Call Sheila Phillips (727.5431) if you need a ride to either lunch.

FOF (Fabulous Folks Over Fifty) potluck dinner on Fri., Aug. 6, 5:45 pm. Enjoy a meal, program, and fellowship! Contact George and Edna Sehmel (943.9044) for more information.

Following Jesus? Expect Change And No Change!

By Rev. Dan Wodrich

“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.” (Isaiah 43:19)



Our Church family is experiencing and anticipating change these days. Ralph has already spoken in this newsletter about some changes in our Worship ministry which we're expecting and preparing for this fall.

There are others in our Christian Growth and Discipleship ministry, which I'm looking forward to sharing with you in next month's newsletter. To some, these changes being proposed and planned may seem brand new. To others, they may seem like iterations of changes or

practices previously experienced. Regardless of how you view the changes, none of us should be surprised that change is happening and coming. Why do I say this? Because we serve a God who is in the change business.

Jesus declares from His throne, ***“I am making everything new!”*** And apparently, He thinks our hearing of His message is important enough that He commanded John to, ***“Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”*** The Maker of heaven and earth is making everything new. Everything. Forms and structures. Hearts and minds. Young and old. You and me. He is doing a new thing. We are His body, the community in which His Spirit is dwelling. In accordance with

(cont. pg.10)

Joyful Summer Ministry

The month of August in the youth program seems to be both a time of enjoying the fruits of ministry as well as looking ahead to the future. God has been doing great things this summer, as our trainees in both mid-high and high school have jumped right into our ministry. I have been incredibly blessed by each of them as have many of our students. Their zeal for Christ and the desire to share that zeal is infectious, and I hope you all will have the opportunity to experience their joy at some point this summer. One of the great themes that emerged this summer is the need for our students to grasp the power of prayer. As the Associate Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries, my desire is to help our students develop and articulate the language of faith, to help students pray with confidence that the God of this universe is able to penetrate their busy, matter-of-fact lives in ways they could never have imagined.

The end of a summer is also a time of looking forward to the fall, expectantly, believing that God will show up as many of our programs change and we experience both the joys and the growing pains associated with it.. And while I am enjoying greatly the ministry of our trainees this summer, I am also excited for the ways in which

God will move among our youth here in the fall. Much more information will be distributed in the next month, but know that we are hard at work thinking, praying, and believing that God has much for us to experience in the months and years ahead.

In Christ, Stuart



Mid-High Trainees

Sandrine

Emily



Erica

Natalie

Stephen

High School Trainees

With A Song In Our Hearts

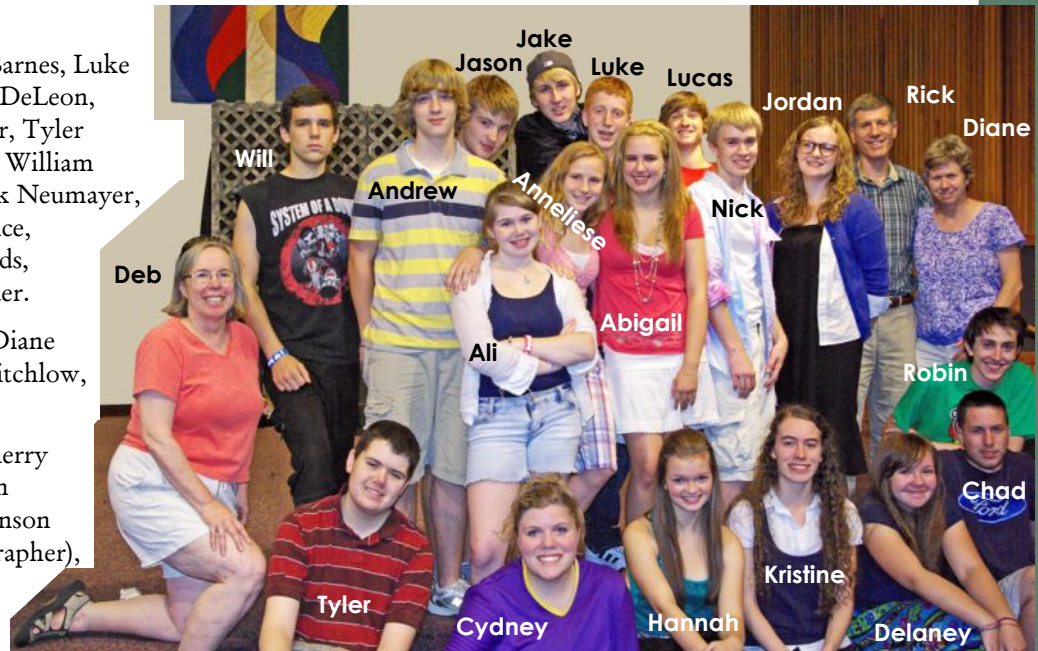
Youth Deputation Team Takes Godspell On The Road

Cast:

Students-Ali Baker, Anneliese Barnes, Luke Brown, Robin Coppock, Chad DeLeon, Hannah Evans, Jake Fankhauser, Tyler Grandgeorge, Abigail Grisham, William Grisham, Andrew Leggett, Nick Neumayer, Kristine Popielarczyk, Luke Price, Jordan Rawlings, Delaney Shields, Cydney Thompson, Jason Trader.

Adults-Deb Donahoe, Rick & Diane Pratt, John Campbell, Steve Critchlow, Stuart Strachan.

Add'l Help-Daniel Haley & Sherry Teachout (asst. directors), Devin Rodgers (costumes), Megan Johnson (vocal), Sarah Landon (choreographer), Aaron Monheim (bass), Gregg Serene (guitar), Janet Bell (pianist), Zach Case (drums).



Let Your Light Shine - Support The Deputation Team With Prayer

The main purpose of our touring production of Godspell is to allow high school students to show how their belief in Christ has impacted their lives. It is an outreach to students in other communities or to communities that do not have active youth programs. While the Godspell team is on tour, they ask for the following prayers:

- ♫ God will open the hearts of the audience so they might understand the message of Godspell;
- ♫ God will give team members the words to share HIS Word;
- ♫ Safe travels;
- ♫ God will give wisdom to team members when they are sharing with people in the community;
- ♫ Calmness and focus during performances (for most of the students, this is their first time on stage);
- ♫ That we will do as God wills and will have the impact that HE wants;
- ♫ Health while we are on the trip;
- ♫ Peace of mind;
- ♫ Family concerns - that family members will get closer to God;
- ♫ That we will show respect to the communities that are hosting us;
- ♫ That the team will serve as an example of a



serving, loving Christian community; and

- ♫ That ALL team members will grow in their relationships with Christ and will begin or reinforce habits that will lead them closer to God.

August

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

<p>Worship: 1 CS 8:15 & 11:00am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Education Hour 9:45am HS Bible Study 6:30pm-WSS</p>  <p>Godspell</p>	<p>Church Office Closed 2 Person to Person 12:00pm -WSAC Wild Cooking (gr.K-5) 12:00pm-WSAC</p> <p>On Tour 🎵</p>	<p>MS Girls Group 4:00pm 3 -Roasters Coffee Worship Cte 7:00pm-WSN</p> <p>🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵</p>	<p>Knitters Group 1:00pm 4 -Lil Legget's Slip & Slide (gr.K-5) 2:00pm -WSN Tool Time 5:30pm-WSN Deacons 7:00pm-WSN</p> <p>🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵</p>	<p>Preschool Play D 10:00am-WSN MS Bible Study 6 Worship Team 7</p> <p>🎵 🎵</p>
<p>Worship: 8 CS 8:15 & 11:00am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Education Hour 9:45am HS Bible Study 6:30pm-WSS</p>	<p>Church Office Closed 9</p>	<p>MS Group 4:00pm 10 Guys-Frankfort Park Girls-Roasters Coffee College/Young Career Bible Study 6:30pm-WSS</p>	<p>Wipe Out (gr.K-5) 2:00pm 11 -WSN HS ".be" 2:00pm-WSS Tool Time 5:30pm-WSN MS Hike 8:30pm-Badger Mtn.</p>	<p>Preschool Play D 10:00am-WSN Missions Council MS Bible Study 6 Worship Team 7</p>
<p>Worship: 15 CS 8:15 & 11:00am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Education Hour 9:45am HS Bible Study 6:30pm-WSS</p>  <p>Trainee Sunday!</p>	<p>Church Office Closed 16 Person to Person 12:00pm -WSAC</p>	<p>MS Group 4:00pm 17 Guys-WSS Girls-Roasters Coffee College/Young Career Bible Study 6:30pm-WSS</p>	<p>HS End of Summer BBQ 18 11:00am-Leslie Groves Park Pool Party (gr.K-5) 2:00pm -Root's House MS End of Summer Ice Cream Party 2:00pm-WSS Tool Time 5:30pm-WSN</p>	<p>Preschool Play D 10:00am-WSN MS Bible Study 6 Worship Team 7</p>
<p>Worship: 22 CS 8:15 & 11:00am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Adult Education Hour 9:45am (No children's Sunday School)</p>	<p>Church Office Closed 23 SAM-Senior Adult Ministry Lunch 11:30am-TBD</p>	<p>Session 6:30pm-WSN 24 College/Young Career Bible Study 6:30pm-WSS</p>	<p>Tool Time 5:30pm-WSN 25 Alpha Prayer 7:00pm-WSN</p>	<p>Missions Prayer 6 -WSN Worship Team 7</p>
<p>Worship: 29 CS 8:15 & 11:00am-WSS TS 11:15am-WSN Adult Education Hour 9:45am (No children's Sunday School)</p>	<p>Church Office Closed 30 Person to Person 12:00pm -WSAC</p>	<p>College/Young Career 31 Bible Study 6:30pm-WSS</p>	 <p>Faith Night at Friday, Aug GESA Stadium Our Tri-City Du vs the Boise</p>	

Yes, Change Is Coming - cont. from pg. 1

people have been raised with no training or experience in Christianity or church-life. Further, people's starting points, their values and views, are farther removed from the biblical norm. So if you were not raised in the church and you decide to start coming, to Children's Sunday School for example, it appears as a nice option instead of a necessity. These are the two primary questions parents ask their kids on Sunday morning:

- ↑ Did you have fun?
- ↑ What did you learn?

The questions come usually in that order. If the immediate answer of their children is "boring," parents will begin to reassess their family's commitment. This is a picture of the starting point of the people God is calling us to reach.

With this picture in mind, Session and Pastoral staff have spent time with a large number of people in the congregation talking about changes we could make to Sunday morning to make Sunday morning more beneficial to this group.

Here are some key factors we have identified:

- ↑ The length of the morning. If you want your child to go to Sunday school you have to make a 2 ½ hour commitment.
- ↑ A Contemporary Service at the same time as the children's Sunday School hour to create different entry points of commitment—give people a one-hour option.
- ↑ The ability for parents to focus on the morning's sermon.
- ↑ Children's Church, so that younger kids can be in part of the service and then be engaged at their developmental level during the sermon.
- ↑ Length of worship service.
- ↑ For adults and families who want to attend an adult education offering, they can still have a choice between Traditional and Contemporary worship services.
- ↑ A better liturgy in the Contemporary services, where the sermon doesn't have to be so early in the service.

approved the following Schedule changes to begin in the fall:

- 8:15 – 9:25 AM Contemporary Service (WSS)
- 8:50 – 9:25 AM Children's Church
- 9:45 – 10:45 AM Sunday School Hour
- 9:45 – 10:45 AM Contemporary Service (WSS)
- 11:00 – 12:05 Traditional Service (WSN)

Over the last two weeks of July, we also conducted a survey to get feedback from the congregation on these plans. While this was done at a time when some were away on vacation, we have been able to receive encouraging feedback. The overwhelming response of people was very positive concerning the proposed changes, especially



those who identified that they have elementary age children at home. Both the Children's Church option and the one-hour option were favored by 90% of the respondents. It was also clear that keeping the traditional service at 11:00

AM is not only desirable but necessary for a number of people who attend at that time.

There were a couple people who expressed concerns with the changes, either a negative impact on Sunday school or that we would work to encourage and have times when the whole family would worship together (for people who choose the one-hour options). These concerns have been discussed at length by Pastoral staff and Session, and we recognize the need for our discipleship ministries to respond appropriately. We believe God calls us to meet people where they are, but God doesn't want to leave us there.

As the Session discusses the feedback from the feedback forms, we may make slight modifications to the proposed schedule. A shorter, modified service was favored by a clear majority of people in the contemporary service. This will have us relook at the start times. The traditional service's liturgy will stay basically the same, though with a slightly shorter sermon.

All of this to say, yes, change is coming. The goal of the change is that by all possible means the Lord might use us to help save people who don't yet know our Savior.

Blessings in Christ, Ralph

With these factors in mind the Session has

McIntosh Memorial Library

Summer Schedule

The library is on summer schedule. Most Sunday mornings, a staff member will be available in the library to assist you. The library is always open, though, so even if the lights are off, you're welcome to come in and browse. Self checkout stations are always available.



What's New - August Highlights

NONFICTION: We have several new titles, including *The Lost History of Christianity*, by Philip Jenkins. This book was featured in a class that Karel taught this summer. If you'd like to know more, come check it out.

FICTION: Many new books, including Karen Kingsbury, Nancy Moser and Francine Rivers.

CHILDREN: *This is No Fairy Tale*, written by Dale Tolmasoff and beautifully illustrated by Corbert Gauthier. The story of Jesus from birth to resurrection, contrasting common fairy tale happenings with what actually happened in Jesus' life, for ages 4-8. It begins: "If this were a fairy tale, Jesus would have been born in a big castle in a great kingdom..."

Free Cart in WSS Narthex

The cart in the WSS narthex contains books and magazines that we are offering to the congregation first. Come help yourself! After one month, left-over items will be donated to the Friends of the Richland Library.

"I'm not checking anything out today..."

We've received many compliments about the library's new look. Thanks for that! At the same time, we're hearing the same comments over and over, often starting with "I'm not checking anything out today because..." What's the most common reason?

"I don't have time to read."

We're all busy, but wouldn't you laugh if someone said, "I had a yummy dessert in my hands yesterday, but I was too busy to eat it." How to find time to read? (Hint: Less tv and computer time?) There is another real roadblock, though, that often underlies "no time." We'll talk about that next month.

Reading Roadblock 2



Comments/questions? Email Library@westside1.org

Opportunity to serve as a co-chairperson for our West Side Church Prayer Chain. Communicate prayer requests to key people who then continue the request. Call Pat (946.4656) in the Church Office.

The Bulletin Board

Mark Rosbach has joined the Marines. Write and encourage him as he goes through boot camp. Let him know you are praying for him. His address is: RECRUIT ROSBACH, Mark, A./2nd Battalion, Fox Company, Platoon 2122/36001 Midway Ave, San Diego, CA 92140-2125.

Room for rent? A young man (31) at West Side who is a new Christian is looking for a family with a room to rent in Richland (or a room with a kitchenette). If you can help, please call the Church Office.

"Thank you for everyone who has been praying for me. I will be closing on my house Aug. 6 and moving to Delta, Colorado to be close to my parents. I also found a wonderful little farmhouse in the country to rent. I am just overwhelmed. God really does have his own perfect timeline. I see His hand in everything! I will miss you all. You'll never know how much your support helped keep me going. I'd appreciate travel prayers as I will be driving to Colorado for two days with two cats and two dogs! Blessings and praises, Janie Gilbert. To keep in touch, email janiegilbert@gmail.com."



Following Jesus? Expect Change And No Change! - cont. from pg. 4

our Heavenly Father's will, the Spirit is faithfully and tirelessly working to form Christ in us – to transform each and all of us together into the likeness of the Son.

Now don't get me wrong. I don't think every change proposed or experienced in our lives is necessarily supportive or reflective of the "making new" work our Lord is engaged in. I also don't think that change, merely for the sake of change, is necessarily beneficial. However, change, as orchestrated and brought about by our God, is to be anticipated, invited, prayed for, submitted to. For we know that His "making new" work is in accordance with His good purpose. It is transformation for our sake, for the sake of the world, and for the glory of His Name. Even though His change may not always seem or feel good to us, it is good and it is change in accordance with His better and best for us and others.

Now, for some of us who are "older" (and, by the way, I find that a more fitting label for me in certain ways with each passing day!) – change doesn't always come easily. We grow accustomed to the way we live and experience things. We get used to (sometimes wrong) patterns and ways that we try to live and manage our own (and often others') lives. Left to ourselves, unchecked, we can become brittle, stiff-necked, and rebellious toward anything "new" – including the "making new" work of our Lord. But thankfully, the Lord does not leave us to ourselves, unchecked. His Spirit Who is alive in us works to make us more malleable in His hands, more receptive to the working of His Word in us, more submissive to His good and freeing commands and living in obedience to Him. The Spirit graciously works to convict us of our sin and wrongful ways of thinking and doing, to lead us into Truth – growing us up together into Our Head, Jesus Christ – the One Who is The Way, The Truth, and The Life.

So, change is to be expected, if not welcomed. But for me, it's not that I have much of a problem with the "idea" of change. Rather, it's the experience and living of change...and being changed... that I find difficult. How about you?

There's a part of me that sometimes resists and chafes at change and proposals to change – because I've experienced disappointment, pain, or heartache with some of the "changes" I've experi-

enced in my life. Another part of my resistance to change – having been a long-time member of our West Side Church family – is that, as I look back, I find myself thankful for the many ways our Lord has worked to bless me and many through the forms and structures that have been in place here over the years! And, I think understandably, part of me wonders that if God was able to work through certain forms in the past to richly bless us and the world, couldn't He (and perhaps shouldn't He?) continue to work through those forms today? I mean, what is now being called "old" by some, sure seemed "new" and "good" at one time, and it was! Thanks be to God! And then I begin to wonder, maybe the issue isn't our so-called "old" structures and forms. Maybe the problem is more with the attitudes of those proposing change to the structures I'm used to? Maybe the folks proposing something "new" are the ones whose perspective needs to change? Maybe they should be more honoring and appreciative of what is "old", which has been so beneficial to me and many over the years?!

And then, somewhere along this road that my mind travels down, I find myself confronted and "checked" by a question. And the question that has been and is so convicting to me goes something like this (and perhaps this is more my issue than yours)...

"Who or what are you worshipping today? Are you worshipping your experience of God or are you worshipping the God of your experience?"

Put another way, the question from the Lord to me is, "*Dan, are there ways you have made an idol out of your experience of Me in the past – of the forms and structures I've utilized in the past – which are blocking and getting in the way of your attentiveness and allegiance to Me now – as I am freshly living and working in new ways today to transform you and the world?*" When I'm honest, I must admit there are some aspects of forms and structures, of ways and styles, that I've become accustomed to over the years, that I think I may wrongly be clinging to and "worshipping." And yet, despite my wrongful clinging and worshipping these idols – these "things" that are not Him, He graciously and jealously is pointing them out to me and He is calling me back to Himself alone – to attend to Him and what He has done and is now doing afresh in Christ, by His Spirit. Jesus said and is

saying to us,

“No one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, he pours new wine into new wineskins.”

Whether we are young or old, the Lord is desiring and working to pour the new wine of His Spirit into us today. He is not doing away with form and structure. But He is working to expose our idols and to refashion and make new forms and structures in His church in order that they might be refreshed and more suitable for our receiving, drinking, and sharing the “new wine” of Christ’s life with one another and others, for *their* sake.

Are we seeing the “new thing” He is doing in our midst? He tells us it is already springing up! Are we perceiving it? Christ alive in our midst – the Alpha and Omega – the One whose character will not change – He is bringing about newness and change for His good purpose. Yes, some things are changing, but Someone is not! Thanks be to God!

*Great is Thy faithfulness, oh God our Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.*

Heavenly Father, change us, make us new, as you see fit by your Spirit, in accordance with your unchanging Word, Jesus Christ – for the sake of the world and for the glory of your Name.

Amen. Dan

Clerk Of Session Report

By Ken Swinth

The July session meeting was opened in prayer with session members sharing concerns for the church family. The meeting was shorter than usual with several items of routine business. We have been able to control expenses and have not had to touch our reserves, but we have two large expenses that must be covered soon: the stipend for the trainees and the Presbytery dues. The Congregational feedback on worship services was discussed. This confirmed the desire for a one-hour service, for Children’s Church and a traditional service at 11:00. (Ralph has provided more on this in his article this month.)

We are moving forward with the property changes which were the subject of the Congregational meeting in June. We have received appraisals on the 606 Wright house (\$88,445) and on West Side Activity Center (\$540,800) which allows us to move forward with the sale of the properties on the docket for Presbytery approval. The Gather4Him Bible college (see TriCity Herald 07/26/10) has expressed an interest in the Activity Center property and the previous interest expressed by Richland School District remains to be explored. The property acquisition committee is looking further into available properties for a new facility and the previous WS2000 plans are being reviewed to compare with expected needs. An architect is looking at the “refresh” ideas and implementation within the present facilities.

For over a year the Christian Growth committee has been looking into and exploring a strategy for discipleship and they are now planning a special meeting for session to discuss the plans developed to date. An additional change is the harmonization of the sermons, Children’s Sunday school, small groups, etc. so that a common theme is evident.

The Fellowship Committee reminded session of the potluck and Godspell performance on Jul. 30, the family movie night, and the Dust Devils game. They are planning a series of get-acquainted Potlucks (dinner for eight) for this fall.

The Worship Director Search Committee is bringing in a candidate for interview August 6-9.

Check out

www.Fields-Of-Grace.com

for upcoming gleaning events and volunteer training sessions.

Want to learn how you can “Glean God’s harvest for the Mid-Columbia Region”?



Contact Alissa Watkins (392.1455).



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Here's Something New!!

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new monthly newsletter,
West Side Church **SERVANT:**
Loving God, Loving People, Serving the World
in the Name of Jesus.

Want to receive our newsletter via email?
Contact us at info@westside1.org or call the Church Office.

West Side Staff

Rev. Ralph Kieneker ::
Lead Pastor
Rev. Dan Wodrich ::
Assoc. Pastor
Rev. Faye Serene ::
Assoc. Pastor
Rev. Stuart Strachan :: *Assoc.*
Pastor- Youth & Family Ministries
Rev. Karel Coppock ::
Alpha Ministries, Presbytery
John Lipp :: *Lay Minister-*
Pastoral Care
Sheila Phillips :: *Ministry Assoc.-*
Pastoral Care
Heather Smith :: *Director-Children &*
Family Ministries
Rebecca Datin :: *Interim-Children &*
Family Ministries
Brenda Welsch :: *Director-Adult Choir*
Brad Goecke :: *Interim Leader-*
Worship Team
Sharon Isaacson :: *Financial Specialist*
Diane Pratt :: *Financial Assistant*
Pat Cassidy :: *Administrative Asst.*
Wendy Puz :: *Administrative Asst.*
Colette Root :: *General Ministry*
Kiet & Ngan Dang :: *Custodians*
Izudin Porobic :: *WSAC Custodian*

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