

AUG.
2011



Wednesday Fellowship/Discipleship Nights!

By Rev. Dan Wodrich

Beginning Wednesday evenings this fall, our church family will enjoy intergenerational fellowship over a shared meal, followed by discipleship activities for all ages. A delicious supper will be available beginning at 5:15 pm in WS North. Following the meal, there will be separate discipleship activities for preschool and elementary-aged children, for mid-high youth, and for adults. Childcare for infant/toddlers will also be provided. The evening will conclude at 7:30 pm (7:45 pm for mid-high).

Three different adult discipleship offerings are planned for fall:

- Faith @ Home: Marriage Enrichment
- Bible "Survey" and Guidance on Reading and Interpreting the Bible



- Introducing a Pathway for Christian Growth: Mansions of the Heart.

This collaborative, multi-generational mid-week ministry program is expected to begin Sept. 21 and will run for 8 weeks through Nov. 13. If well-received, we will plan for another 8-week block from Feb.-Apr., concluding before Holy Week.

This Issue:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Trainee Celebration... | 2 |
| Updates..... | 2 |
| Women's Ministry..... | 3 |
| Men's Ministry..... | 3 |
| Senior Adults..... | 3 |
| Life Groups..... | 3 |
| Summer Activities..... | 4 |
| New Youth Intern..... | 5 |
| Christian Growth..... | 5 |
| Calendar of Events..... | 6-7 |
| Christian Response..... | 8 |
| ESL/Citizenship..... | 9 |
| Deacon Beacon..... | 9 |
| Library..... | 10 |
| Gleaning Ministry..... | 10 |

Sabbath Rest - No Sunday School This August

During the month of August, we will enter into a time of celebration and rest while we take a short break from Sunday School. We encourage your family to use this "extra" time for "Sabbath Rest" in August. You could go out to breakfast with another family from church, gather your small group together for a picnic after church, or read a book together as a family on Sunday after worship. Sunday School resumes on Kick-off Sunday, Sept. 11, at 9:45 am.



By Heather Smith

PAR-TY! PAR-TY!! PAR-TY!!! - 50th Anniversary Celebration of Trainee Ministry

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Fri., Aug. 5, 6:00 pm:

No-host mixer at Cooper Wine Company (Benton City). Wine and taco truck goodies available for purchase.

Sat., Aug. 6, Hanford High School:

8:30 am - Sign up and Continental Breakfast*

9:15 am - Hear Steve Hayner share about
"The Making of a Leader" (1 Cor. 4:1-5)
AND

The stories of how lives have been affected/changed/transformed through Trainee Ministry
[What is YOUR STORY????]

12:30 pm - CATERED lunch*

Sat., Aug. 6, Flat Top Park (West Richland):

5:00 pm - PARTY! PARTY!! PARTY!!!
BBQ Dinner* Just bring yourself!

*Full-day Saturday is \$50/person or \$120/family which includes 3 meals (continental breakfast, lunch, bbq dinner), GREAT teaching, and PRICELESS stories.

Sun., Aug. 7, Hanford High School:

10:00 am - Worship and Thank God!!!
Guest Preacher—Steve Hayner
"Walking off the Map" (Phil. 3:1-17)



Erik Flaten* - In Concert!

Sun., Aug. 14, 3:00 pm, West Side Church (Richland)
Invite ALL Your Friends!!!

This will be Erik's last Washington State performance (and first Tri-Cities' performance in 4 years).

Erik will be moving to New York City (four days later) to pursue his Masters in Collaborative Music!!

Program will include:

Petrarch Sonnet 104 by Franz Liszt;
Funérailles by Franz Liszt; *Quintet in F Minor for Piano and Strings* by César Franck.

With guest musicians:

Clare Bresnahan, Violin;
Brian Miles, Violin;
Jessica Jasper, Viola;
Brooke School, Cello.



Erik Flaten
2008
Summer Trainee

*Join us for this special event as an extension of our 50th Anniversary Celebration of Trainee Ministry

Update: Sale of West Side Center

In June the congregation voted to accept \$100,000 down and carry a short term note on the principal so that Gather4Him ministries could move forward in purchasing the West Side Center. Since then their supporters have been in discussions to purchase the building and carry the loan of G4H. This has delayed the sale and raised some question marks to their commitment to purchase the WSC. The original earnest money agreement has expired, and they have not been expedient in communicating their intentions. While they have communicated they are still interested in purchasing the building, the Session has decided that it is time for us to hire a commercial real estate agent to list the property. Our hope is that it will communicate to the G4H supporters that we are not going to simply holdout for them indefinitely. So don't be surprised if you see a "for sale" sign up in August, and we will keep you informed of what's happening.

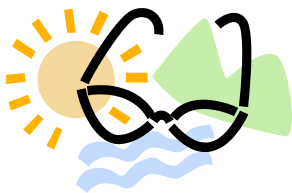
Update: Presbytery Happenings

If you attended the three forums, we shared that our Presbytery was going to be having a meeting of Presbyter at West Side on Jul. 16 to consider concurring with a "White Paper" from the national movement in the PC (USA) called *The Fellowship* that is responding to the problems and challenges that we are facing as a denomination. The goal of this motion was to get the whole Presbytery into dialogue and to see if we have enough shared theological conviction that we could meet the issues confronting us (e.g. changing standards, whole new constitution, more top-down administration of the denomination) together as a Presbytery and not just each congregation having to struggle by itself. The motion to concur passed by a vote of 40 to 15. This means that we have hope that in the days and months ahead, we will be walking the path with a Presbyter that shares our classic biblical orthodox convictions. The Fellowship committee and their many volunteers served this meeting by providing wonderful refreshments and a great meal. The hospitality and warmth they extended can make us all feel proud.

Women's Ministry

Knitters' Group. Wed., Aug. 3, 1:00 pm, WS South Upper Room. All are invited to join and share their projects.

Cool Summer Craft Days. Fri., Aug. 12, 1:00-10:00 pm, and Sat., Aug. 13, 9:00 am-9:00 pm, WS North Narthex. Ladies of all ages are invited to gather for crafting and fellowship! Bring sewing,



quilting, knitting, cross-stitching, scrapbooking—whatever you would like to work on. Also bring a snack to share, if you like.

On Saturday, lunch is on your own, but bring a salad for the potluck dinner. Questions-contact Jodi Hassell (628.1820).

Mom's Night Out. Thurs., Aug. 18, 6:00 pm, Ice Harbor (Marina Restaurant on Clover Island, Kennewick). Moms of young children are invited to join other moms from Parent Connection for a relaxing dinner out away from the kids and good conversation! Questions-contact Debbie Geelhood.

Men's Ministry

Men's Golf. Next outing is Fri. and Sat., Aug. 19-20 in Spokane at Hangman Valley and Downriver golf courses. Fees are \$29 for each course. Contact Bob Tibbatts (946.9905 or ngaire3@frontier.com) for details and to reserve your spot today!



Senior Adult Ministry

FOF-Folks Over Fifty. NO FOF in Aug. Mark your calendars NOW for Fri., Sept. 2, when we will have a presentation by our own Broadway Babes!

Person To Person lunch Mon., Aug. 8 and 22, 12:00 pm, WS North Narthex. Call the Church Office (946.4656) if you need a ride.

Growing In A Life Group

By Rev. Dan Wodrich

“Life Groups” are small groups of West Siders who meet together three or four times a month, usually in homes. Most are comprised of 8-12 people. Many meet during the “school year” and take summers off.

Participation in a Life Group is a great way to personally connect with others in our church family, develop friendships, and to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus in community with one another. Time together in Scripture, prayer, fun, fellowship, mutual care and encouragement, and service are healthy characteristics of a Life Group experience.



Based on positive response received, we're planning to continue this fall making Life Group study materials available which are integrated with our Sunday morning sermons. Beginning Sept. 11, we'll kick-off a five-week sermon series, “*The*

God Who Calls.” Its aim will be to introduce various aspects of God's call upon us – first to grow in deepening, personal intimacy with Himself – and second, to grow in love of neighbor and service to the world. A key resource for these sermons and the accompanying materials will be the book,

Mansions of the Heart, by R.

Thomas Ashbrook. Our second fall sermon series with study materials, entitled, “*The God Who Sends*,” will run for six weeks, Oct. 16-Nov. 20. A key resource will be the book, *The Hole in the Gospel*, written by Richard Stearns, president of World Vision – the organization our church is partnering with in ministry to the people of Mali.

Fall is a great time to join a Life Group! If you're interested in doing so, or if you have questions about Life Groups at West Side, please contact Pastor Dan Wodrich.

Summer Trainees

Children & Family

Rainbow Summer!! Preschool Play Dates.

Thursdays from 9:15-11:15 am, each themed with a different color (see schedule below). Wear the color of the day so we can match! Activities are geared towards younger children, but older siblings are welcome to join us for play. Trainees will be at all events to facilitate activities and free play, but adults **must** remain on site at all times. Please bring a snack for your child.

Red Day! Aug. 4 (Leslie Groves Park-Park St.)
Come play with the parachute!

Green Day! Aug. 11 (WSN Courtyard)
Come for fun art activities!

Rainbow Day! Aug. 18 (Badger Mtn. Water Park)
Splash around and say goodbye to the Trainees!



Summer Safari Adventures (gr. K-5th)!

We have lots of fun activities scheduled on Wednesdays from 2:00-4:00 pm (see schedule below).

Safari Treasure Hunt! Aug. 3 (WSN) - Come follow the clues of Safari Stu to the awesome treasure!

Safari Adventure! Aug. 10 (WSN) - Ride in our "safari jeep" through this exciting adventure!

Gathering at the Water Hole! Aug. 17 (Renee Root's, 5611 W. 8th Ave., Kennewick) - Bring your swimsuit, a towel, and a snack to share!

*Important
DATE!*

Trainee Sunday - Aug. 14, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Middle School

Mid-High Events!

River Float! Wed., Aug. 3 1:00-4:00 pm (Leslie Groves Park-boat launch) - Bring your own life-jacket, an inner tube/floatation device, and wear appropriate swimwear. We will float down the Columbia River to Howard Amon Park (pick up at boat launch).

Movie Afternoon! Wed., Aug. 10 1:00-4:00 pm (WSS) - Come watch "The Sandlot"!

Surprise Event! Wed., Aug. 17, 2:00-4:00 pm. Our last event! Look for a postcard in the mail with complete details about this event!!

Summer Sundays!

Sunday School 9:45-10:45 am (WSS) - Join us as we journey through 1 Corinthians.

"Breakfast" 6:30-8:30 pm (WSS) - "Breakfast" is our Sunday night youth group/Bible study. It is called "Breakfast" because Jesus is the most important meal of our life. Join us as we



MS Trainees (L to R): Kyle Schlahta, Kalli Watson, Stephen Jackson

go through the book of 1 John. There will also be games, music, and fun for everyone.

High School

High School Events!

River Float! Wed., Aug. 3 1:00-4:00 pm (Leslie Groves Park-boat launch) - Bring your own life-jacket, an inner tube/floatation device, and wear appropriate swimwear. We will float down the Columbia River to Howard Amon Park (pick up at boat launch).

Water Day! Wed., Aug. 10 1:00-4:00 pm (Frankfort Park) - Wear appropriate swimwear, bring a towel and money for treats at 7-11!

Progressive Dinner! Thurs., Aug. 18, meet at the church at 5:00 pm. A postcard will be sent out soon with more information. We also need volunteers to host different courses of dinner - we will provide money for food!

Summer Sundays!

Sunday School 9:45-10:45 am (WSS) - We will be exploring stories of God's love found throughout the Old Testament.

"Roots" 6:30-8:30 pm (WSS) - "Roots" is our Sunday night Youth group/Bible study. Join us as we go through 1 John to help understand God's love for us.



HS Trainees: Bethany Roeschley & Adam Ogg

Introducing ... Erica Cox! - New Youth Intern

By Erica Cox

Hello West Side Church! For those of you whom I have yet to meet, I wanted to introduce myself to you and let you know a few things about me. My name is Erica Ann Cox, but first things first. As your new youth intern, I want to thank everyone for making me feel so welcome. Arriving in Richland and coming back to West Side felt like coming home. My actual home is in Parma, Idaho where my parents, Mark and Carole Cox, and the youngest of my three sisters still live. After graduating from Parma High School, I moved to Spokane where I attended Whitworth University. This May, I graduated from Whitworth with my degree in Elementary Education, with focuses on Reading and Special Education. While at college, I was a member of the track and field team and worked as a resident assistant. Last year, West Side hired me to be a Trainee, and I worked with the High School youth group for the summer months. The trainee experience was truly life-changing and increased my interest in youth min-

istry. After applying and being offered the internship position, I was elated at the thought of returning to work at West Side Church.

My memories of going to Sunday school and youth group in middle and high school are so vivid to me, that working with a youth ministry program seemed like a good fit after finishing college. In addition to building upon the relationships with students that I was blessed to start last summer, it is exciting to think about spending more time with mid-high students and getting to know more of the high school students. Teaching is something I enjoy, and there is nothing I would like to teach about more than the Bible and our faith in Christ. Youth ministry is a field with so many possibilities and so much room for growth and inspiration for everyone involved. I am looking forward to all I will be able to do and learn in the coming months.



A Helpful "Pathway" For Christian Growth

By Members of the Christian Growth Committee

In the Fall of 2009, our congregation participated in the REVEAL Spiritual Life Survey, sponsored and facilitated by our Christian Growth Committee. Participants answered questions about attitudes, beliefs, needs, and behaviors, as well as about our participation in and satisfaction with various church activities. Although not every member took part, the nearly 200 respondents provided a sufficiently representative perspective and "voice" of our congregation.

According to the survey, after the No. 1 priority (**Provide strong programs for children and youth**), you asked for the following:

- Help me develop a personal relationship with Christ
- Help me develop prayer life
- Challenge me to grow
- Provide clear pathway to guide growth

"Help, help, challenge, and provide!" That was a tall order for our small, newly-formed Christian Growth Committee. That is why *we* have been petitioning God to "Help, help, challenge, and provide" to us what *we* need to know in order to respond to *your* requests.

What is "growth"? The Bible says growth is about

"growing up into the full measure of the stature of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13). Are we on the same page with you as to God's aim for our growth? We have also been asking...

- How do we grow best?
- How do we grow *together* as a Christian community?
- How do we intentionally help one another grow?
- What is a "clear pathway" to guide our growth?
- What puts our feet on that pathway, no matter where we are at in our journey with the Lord and what our spiritual maturity is?

Without a clear, overall picture or roadmap for the "spiritual growth" pathway, it can be difficult to know what to do next – what next step(s) may be beneficial and edifying in accordance with the Lord's good purpose for us, in us, and through us. Without "next steps" help, some of us may become discouraged; some even mad at God or His church for what is perceived to be a lack of direction. Am I supposed to just "let go and let God" or are there "next step" practices that are beneficial in our journey with Christ and His work in us? What does it look like to "cooperate" with God?

(cont. pg. 11)

August

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">NO Sunday School in August. Kick-off Sunday Sept. 11</p> | <p>Church Office-CLOSED 1</p> <p>HS Lock-In ENDS 8:00am-WSS</p> | <p>Worship Mtg 7:00pm-WSN 2</p> | <p>Knitters' Group 1:00pm-WSS 3 River Float (MS & HS) 1:00pm -Leslie Groves Park Safari Treasure Hunt (gr.K-5) 2:00pm-WSN Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN Facilities Mtg 5:15pm-WSN Deacons 7:00pm-WSN</p> | <p>Preschool Play D -Leslie Groves Pure Desire 4:30 Worship Team 7 College/Young Bible Study 7:0</p> |
| <p>50th Trainee Reunion Celebration Worship: 7 10:00am-Hanford HS Aud. NO Sunday School "Breakfast" (MS) 6:30pm-WSS "Roots" (HS) 6:30pm-WSS</p> | <p>Church Office-CLOSED 8 Person to Person 12:00pm -WSN</p> | <p>Youth Mtg 6:30pm-WSN 9 Prop 7:00pm-WSN</p> | <p>Movie Afternoon (MS) 10 1:00pm-WSS Water Day (HS) 1:00pm -Frankfort Park Safari Adventure (gr.K-5) 2:00pm-WSN Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN Facilities Mtg 5:15pm-WSN</p> | <p>Preschool Play D 9:15am-WSN Fellowship Mtg Pure Desire 4:30 CFM Mtg 6:30pm Missions Council Worship Team 7 College/Young Bible Study 7:0</p> |
| <p>Trainee Sunday: 14 Worship & Children's Church 9:00am-WSS Worship 11:00am-WSN NO Sunday School Erik Flaten Concert 3:00pm "Breakfast" (MS) 6:30pm-WSS "Roots" (HS) 6:30pm-WSS</p> | <p>Church Office-CLOSED 15</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>Surprise Event (MS) ___pm 17 -_____ Gathering at the Water Hole (gr.K-5) 2:00pm-Renee Root's Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN Facilities Mtg 5:15pm-WSN</p> | <p>Preschool Play D 9:15am-Badge Water Park Pure Desire 4:30pm Progressive Dinn Mom's Night Ou Worship Team 7 College/Young Bible Study 7:0</p> |
| <p>Worship & Children's Church 9:00am-WSS 21 NO Sunday School Worship 11:00am-WSN Fields of Grace Volunteer Training 6:00pm-WSN</p> | <p>Church Office-CLOSED 22 Person to Person 12:00pm -WSN</p> | <p>Session 6:30pm-WSN 23 Prop 7:00 pm-WSN</p> | <p>Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN 24 Facilities Mtg 5:15pm-WSN</p> | <p>Fellowship Mtg 2 -WSN Pure Desire 4:30pm Missions Prayer 6 Worship Team 7 College/Young Bible Study 7:0</p> |
| <p>Worship & Children's Church 9:00am-WSS 28 NO Sunday School Worship 11:00am-WSN</p> | <p>Church Office-CLOSED 29</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>Tool Time 3:00pm-WSN 31 Facilities Mtg 5:15pm-WSN</p> |  |

WEST SIDE church

day

Friday

Saturday

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Date 9:15am 4</p> <p>Park 9:00pm-WSS 10:00pm-WSS Career 10:00pm-Evans'</p> | <p>Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN 5</p> <p>50th Trainee Reunion Celebration</p> <p>No-Host Mixer 6:00-9:00pm - Cooper Wine Co. (Benton City)</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Continental Breakfast 8:30am-Hanford HS Gathering & Message by Steve Hayner 9:15am-Hanford HS Catered Lunch 12:30pm -Hanford HS [Free Time On Your Own] Congregational BBQ 6:00pm -Flat Top Park (W Richland)</p> |
| <p>Date 11</p> <p>9:00am-WSS 10:00am-WSS 11:00am-WSN 11:30am-WSN 12:00pm-WSS Career 10:00pm-Evans'</p> | <p>Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN 12</p> <p>Cool Summer Craft Days 1:00-10:00pm-WSN</p> | <p>13</p> <p>9:00am-9:00pm-WSN</p> |
| <p>Date 18</p> <p>9:00am-Mtn. 9:00am-WSS 10:00am-HS) 5:00pm 11:00am-WSN Career 10:00pm-Evans'</p> | <p>Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN 19</p> <p>SERVANT Newsletter Deadline 5:00pm-WSN</p> <p>Men's Golf Weekend Hangman Valley & Downriver (Spokane)</p> | <p>20</p> |
| <p>12:00pm 25</p> <p>9:00am-WSS 10:30am-WSN 11:00pm-WSS Career 10:00pm-Evans'</p> | <p>Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN 26</p> | <p>27</p> |



Celebrate 50 Years of Faithfulness with Us ALL WEEKEND! - Aug. 5-7

- ▶ 50 years of Trainee Ministry at West Side.
- ▶ Connect with old friends and hear about the lives YOU touched.
- ▶ Special guest speaker Rev. Dr. Steve Hayner.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

| DATE | 3 Services: 8:15/9:45/ 11:15 | 2 Services: 9:00 WSS 11:00 WSN | 1 Service: 10:00 |
|----------|--|--|---|
| Aug. 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Childcare Provided ▶ Children's Church 8:15 ▶ Sunday School 9:45 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Childcare Provided ▶ Children's Church 9:00 ▶ NO Sunday School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Childcare Provided ▶ NO Sunday School or Children's Church |
| Aug. 14 | | Summer Trainee Sunday | Trainee Celebration (Hanford HS) |
| Aug. 21 | | | |
| Aug. 28 | | | |
| Sept. 4 | | | Labor Day River Baptisms (Leslie Groves)* |
| Sept. 11 | Fall Kickoff! | | |

* Food and Fellowship together after worship.



NOTE:

**Sunday,
Aug. 14, 21, 28**

9:00 am Worship - WS South

11:00 am Worship - WS North

A Christian Response To Homosexuality

By Rev. Ralph Kieneker

One of the things that I appreciate about West Side is that we don't make denominational affiliation a big issue. Indeed, people may not even realize that our pastors and our organizational structure are Presbyterian until they take a new members class. While we don't highlight denominational affiliation, we are nonetheless intimately tied to the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

In June and July, the Session sponsored a three-week series of informational forums to share about major changes that have recently occurred within our denomination. These changes are significant and troubling, and it is our hope that everyone would know what has happened and the possible implications for our church. This article will begin a three-month series that will provide a summary that was presented as well as further developments that have occurred since these meetings.

The first meeting explored the division that has emerged over the way Christians are called to love people who engage in sexual relations with persons of the same sex. While homosexuality is something we are dealing with at a number of levels across our society, the focus and purpose of this meeting was to wrestle with a "Christian" response. The foundation and beginning of our response is that we are going to love people in the name of Jesus Christ. There has been a lot terrible and unchristian things that have been said and done against homosexuals by people in the name of Christ, and we wanted to apologize and state very clearly that as a church family we are committed to the way of love.

Of course, not everyone agrees on how we are to love. It must be to acknowledge that in the 40 years our denomination has wrestled with this issue, there exists a fundamental divide on how we believe Jesus is calling us to love people who engage in homosexual (same-sex sexual relations). On one side, people advocate to affirm homosexual as a faithful Christian practice. Here, love is seen as accepting their life choice. On the other side are those who believe that the Bible identifies homosexual as a sin; like any other sexual sin (sex outside of marriage or adultery), we must turn away from its practice. If we don't turn away from this practice then we aren't turning towards Christ as our Lord and Savior. Here, love is expressed as calling people to follow Christ, who loves and accepts sinners but calls and empowers them to overcome the power of sin in our lives.

In this meeting we affirmed that the leadership of our church is committed to loving people by calling them to follow Christ as their Lord and Savior, which means coming alongside all sinners, with love and acceptance and expressing the Good News: *"God doesn't want us to suffer under the power of sin and death but experience the glorious freedom of the children of God. So turn from the power of sin and turn towards Christ, who will ultimately set us free. While we cannot expect complete freedom and wholeness in this life, we can expect help and healing in our battles against sin."*

What this means in practice is that we as a church family

must repent (turn away) from any spirit of hatred or fear when it comes to people who engage in same-sex sexual relations. We are called to love and accept all people. It is our hope that everyone who enters into our community will feel welcomed, valued, and loved. We are going to focus on getting people to know and follow Jesus. If someone confesses that they have homosexual desires, we will affirm our commitment to walk with them in Christ, and we will hope and pray that they will follow Christ, who calls them to turn away from this sin, just as he calls all of us to turn away from hatred, anger, malice, greed, pride, and all other sexual sins. And so all of us should understand how difficult the fight is against sin. That none of us are perfect. That all of us will stumble and fall at times. But that our salvation is not dependent upon our own ability to overcome sin, but our trust that Jesus can rescue us from its power.

We are committed to this because we are convinced that God clearly reveals through the Scriptures that engaging in same-sex sexual relations is a sin. And as with all sin, he calls us to turn away from it and to turn towards Christ. In the forum, we spent a lot of time looking at Scripture passages and dealing with questions and objections to this view point. If you are interested in reading more on what the Bible has to say, perhaps the best starting point is *The Bible and Homosexual Practice*, by Robert Gagnon.

It should be noted that people who advocate and affirm homosexual as an acceptable practice for Christians also turn to the Bible in order to support their position. They also passionately believe that this is the loving way to respond to this situation.

This is where this issue is really symptomatic of the deeper theological divide that has existed in our denomination for more than 100 years. We have, broadly speaking, two very different approaches toward the Bible. The position that we are advocating is founded upon the tradition going back to the apostles themselves – "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). The approach from the other side is reflective of modern developments and presuppositions, where the word of God is hidden in the Bible and must be discovered by separating "spiritual truth" from the husk of historical particularity and human error. I believe this path is fatally flawed and this can be seen in some of the conclusions people have made as they walk along it—the denial of the incarnation, the denial of the resurrection, the denial of miracles, these are simply a few examples that are not simply wrong, but in the end are actually opposed to the Gospel.

And so, for the sake of love and holding on the conviction that God is committed to reveal his will through the Bible, we want to love people in the name of Christ by calling all people to follow him, which means turning away from the power of sin and turning to Christ who will set us free.

Is God Calling You To Mission? - West Side's ESL Program

By Robin Morris

How would you like to go on a mission trip without ever packing a bag or getting a passport? You can by joining the ESL program. We will begin our 15th year of service to the Tri-Cities community on Sept. 13., teaching English and citizenship to newcomers. But to do this, we need new volunteers. We currently have openings for three teachers, an aide for the elementary school class, and a snack coordinator. All of these are vital positions that must be filled if our program continues this year.

This is a mission outreach of West Side's Missions Council, and it is a wonderful way to be


the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

You will gain far more than you will give in this exciting ministry.

Classes are Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm, and we follow the Richland School District calendar. You do not need teacher training to participate; we have the curriculum and we will train you.



Won't you prayerfully consider if God is calling you to this mission this year? Contact Robin Morris (943.9942) for more information.



Trips
Mali rides redefine "crowded" Violation of space is cultural. We complain in airplanes & siblings argue in back seats. These 5 men riding *outside* this van on the highway were in jolly spirits in spite of crowding. Next time you feel crowded, will you think of Mali & choose to be in the *Holy Spirit*--grateful & gracious? You can change focus & pray for safety on the roads for our families in Mali.

Volunteers Needed!

As the summer winds down, recruitment for fall volunteers kicks into high gear in CFM.



We are still in need of co-teachers for many of our classes, ages 2 through 5th grade. This is a

weekly position from September - May, and we provide substitutes for when you are out of town. In addition, we need monthly help in Kingdom Care (all worship house) and in Children's Church at 8:15. If interested, contact Heather Smith (946.4656).

Deacon Beacon

Each month in the SERVANT, your Board of Deacons will be highlighting one or two of the ministries that you make possible with your caring and generous support. Our goal is to serve with the compassion of Christ. Please pray for the work of your Deacons and continue to help us make a difference in people's lives right here at home.

Deacons Provide Services. Year-round, Deacons provide services to our church family and the community. Within our church, we cover the cost of rosebuds to welcome new babies, monthly communion, and church receptions. We also have a fund for families in crisis. We contribute financially to the following: Domestic Violence Services, Grace Clinic, The Salvation Army, Tri-Cities Chaplaincy, Tri-Cities Food Bank, Tri-Cities Pregnancy Network,

Union Gospel Mission, World Vision, The Emmaus Center, World Relief, Child Evangelism Fellowship, The Good Samaritan Ministries, and Jericho Ministries. You can always contribute directly for any of these services by using the **green envelopes** in the pews. Thank you for your past financial support, and thanks in advance for all future support. For more information, please contact any Deacon.



NOTE: We need vases (approx. 9" tall) for our rosebuds. Announcing and welcoming our new babies is important!!

Look What's New!

By Pam Cadd

Vacation Reading and Listening.

This month we have new fiction titles in many genres, perfect for road trips or just a relaxing day indoors hiding from the heat.

If you like legal thrillers, dive into *Water's Edge* by Robert Whitlow.

Historical fiction? Liz Curtis Higgs takes you to Jacobite Scotland in 1745 with *Here Burns My Candle*, followed by *Mine is the Night*.

Karen Kingsbury fans will enjoy *Learning*, second in the Bailey Flanigan series.

The Thorn and *The Judgment* are the first two of a new trilogy from Beverly Lewis, a stirring saga of two Amish sisters on the fringes of the church. The library will be adding the third book, *The Mercy*, when it is released in September.

Mary Beth Whalen has written a contemporary novel for any woman who has looked at another woman's life and said, "I want what she has." *She Makes It Look Easy* reminds us of the danger of pedestals and the beauty of authentic friendship.



McIntosh Memorial
Library
mmlibrary.org

Four classic G.K. Chesterton stories come to life in a radio dramatization of *The Father Brown Mysteries*. Also new this month is *Happy Together! Stories About Family, Friendship, and Faith* (VeggieTales) and *A Shine of Rainbows*, a family movie.

Nonfiction for Information and Inspiration.

A sample of this month's nonfiction titles:

Give Them Grace: Dazzling Your Kids with the Love of Jesus, Elyse Fitzpatrick

The Power of a Whisper: Hearing God, Having the Guts to Respond, Bill Hybels

The Bible and Homosexual Practice, Robert Gagnon (recommended by Ralph Kieneker)

The library is located in WS North Room 2-4, near the staff offices. It's open when the room is not being used by other groups and classes. We welcome your suggestions: talk to Pam Cadd or Susan Carbaugh, or email staff@mmlibrary.org.



Fields Of Grace Gleaning Ministry

Residential Gleaning Team.

Do you or someone you know have fruit trees that will not be fully harvested? Or a vegetable garden with lots of extra produce? Here's how produce can be donated:

1. Contact our Residential Coordinators.
2. They visit the property to inspect the produce, determine an appropriate picking date, and make sure spray records are up to date (esp. cherries & apples).
3. A gleaning date is set (usu. weekday mornings) and volunteers are contacted.
4. Volunteers come to harvest the produce.

Want to join the team? Know of someone that would like to donate their produce? Contact our Residential Coordinators (residential@fields-of-grace.com) or call Rob or Susan (509.545.6936).

Indicate if you are donating produce or if you would like to join the Residential Gleaning Team. Next volunteer training is Sun., Aug. 21, 6:00 pm, WS North Sanctuary.

Koinonia Kafe

Espresso will be closed through Labor Day weekend. Stay tuned for the grand re-opening Sept. 11! Only regular coffee and tea will be served. Would you like to volunteer to bring baked goods on Sunday mornings this fall, once a month, to support Wycliffe missions and Amy Schammert? Then call Annette Barnes (554.1819).



A Helpful “Pathway” For Christian Growth - cont.

The initial “road map” for discipleship and a working definition of discipleship, which we discerned from Scripture and which we have previously shared with the congregation, are shown in the simple diagram below.



These four “steps” are descriptive of what Jesus’ disciples typically experience. Jesus comes to people and asks, “What are you **seeking**?” By His Spirit, He opens our eyes to **believe** the truth that He is God and our Savior. He calls us to **follow** Him as Lord and Master of our lives. He calls us to participate in His **discipling** of others, as He sends us out and into the world in the power of His Name.

As we walk these steps together, God works to grow us up in His love. By the Spirit, Christ shares and matures in us His own love for God our Father, and His love for our neighbor and the world. But, how do we grow in loving God and loving our neighbors?

After much prayer, reading, and conversation, our pastoral staff and Christian Growth committee believe the Lord has provided us with a beneficial road map or “pathway” for growing in His love. It turns out this pathway is not new but has been around for centuries, providing help to countless Christ-followers. It is a paradigm for understanding our Christian growth journey that was shared by two Christians, Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross – both from Spain in the 1500’s. Listen to what **Dallas Willard** and **Eugene Peterson** have to say about the help they received from Teresa and St. John...

“I first studied **Teresa of Avila’s Interior Castle** twenty or so years ago, after many years of efforts to understand, live, and communicate what the spiritual life portrayed in the Bible was meant to be. I had, by then, found many helpful companions on the Way, spread across time and space and from many ‘denominational distinctives.’ But this book and this author immediately announced themselves as a unique presence of God in my life. The book provided instruction on a living relationship with God that I found nowhere else. I think it very likely that you will experience the same refreshing shock as I did.”

(Dallas Willard, *The Great Omission*, p. 206.)

“... when it came to relationship with God, being with God, listening to and answering God, I found that I was reduced to what I had learned rather piecemeal on my own, supplemented with a few slogans and anecdotes I had picked up from others. It wasn’t enough. I knew I needed help.

Help came through a friend who introduced me to Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross, two masters of the spiritual life, masters in understanding the soul and the nature of prayer. I had never heard of either one. They lived in Spain in the same century in which my theological masters, Martin Luther and John Calvin, were doing their work a thousand or so miles to the north in Germany and Switzerland...

My learning of the Christian life...had pivoted on Martin Luther and John Calvin... For them, reforming the Christian life was primarily (but not entirely) a matter of recovering right thinking, understanding doctrine, interpreting Scripture. Teresa and John worked from the other end. They took up matters of the soul, reforming Christian living by taking seriously the life of prayer and recovering the ways of prayer. They gave themselves to discerning the illusions and pitfalls that interfere with receiving what God is giving and reducing prayer to a self-help project with little concern for relationship and love, adoration and mystery.

(Eugene Peterson, in R. Thomas Ashbrook’s *Mansions of the Heart*, p. vii-ix.)

Six members of our pastoral staff participated in a retreat in January of 2011 during which the Teresian “mansions” paradigm was introduced and personally explored and reflected upon. Each and all of us were deeply blessed and helped by learning this “pathway,” and we are continuing to work through and walk the implications of this pathway as persons, as a pastoral staff together, and as members with you of our church family. In February and May 2011, many of our Session elders participated in a similar retreat and were introduced to the Teresian “mansions” pathway as well.

Beginning this fall in September – through a sermon series, life group materials, adult Sunday and midweek classes – we will begin to share the “Mansions” pathway for Christian Growth more broadly in our congregation. If you can’t wait ‘til then to hear more about it, pick up a copy of R. Thomas Ashbrook’s book entitled, *Mansions of the Heart*, and read it. And join with us in asking the Lord to grow and mature us together in, “Loving God, loving people, and serving the world in the Name of Jesus.”



Summer Produce

We welcome your extra veggies/fruit from your gardens for the Sunday Morning Produce Table in WS South Aug. 14, 21, 28. Monetary donations go to local agencies that help those in need.



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Summer Sundays

Reminder: NO Sunday School for the month of August

Breathe, Play, Worship & Fellowship Together

- Aug. 7 - 50 Year Summer Staff/Trainee Celebration -
One Service Only - 10:00 am - Hanford HS Auditorium**
- Aug. 14 - Trainee Sunday - 9:00 am WSS & 11:00 am WSN**
- Aug. 21 & 28 - Two Services 9:00 am WSS & 11:00 am WSN**
- Sept. 4 - Labor Day Weekend - One Service Only 10:00 am**
- Sept. 11 - Fall Kick-off!**

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*

Heather Smith :: *Director-CFM Ministries*

Colleen Strachan :: *Ministry Assoc.-
CFM Ministries*

Erica Cox :: *Intern-Youth Ministry*

Brenda Welsch :: *Director-Adult Choir*

Brad Goecke :: *Interim Leader-
Worship Team*

Sharon Isaacson :: *Financial Specialist*

Diane Pratt :: *Financial Assistant*

Pat Cassidy :: *Administrative Assistant*

Wendy Puz :: *Administrative Assistant*

Colette Root :: *General Ministry*

Kiet & Ngan Dang :: *Custodians*

Izudin Porobic :: *WSAC Custodian*

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

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