



# SERVAN

*"Loving God, Loving People, Serving The World In The Name Of Jesus"*

A Monthly News Publication For Members And Friends

## He Gives Us All Things!

By Rev. Ralph Kieneker

Gift giving is the dominant expression of observing Christmas in our culture today. This isn't a bad thing. Much love and comfort is expressed through these gifts. Further, gift giving is the very heart of Christmas—"to us a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6) and "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).



goes like this: Each person should carry two pebbles, one in each pocket. On the first stone write: "You are only the dust of the earth." On the second should be written: "All this was made for you." Then pull out each stone, as you need it.

Much of humanity's self-torment and anxiety that is caused by vanity and low self-esteem could be overcome if we could only hold

Indeed, it is not wrong to say that Christmas is all about gift giving. But it isn't about what we give; it is about what God gives. Christmas is about the gift of salvation. Salvation is not simply getting to heaven, it is about experiencing the life God has always intended for us. Jesus said, "I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of" (The Message).

If we are going to enjoy the benefits of this gift, we must open it. Like a little kid who is opening a box bigger than they are and so must climb into the box to get it out, we need to immerse ourselves into the life of Jesus. But immersing ourselves in this gift is often difficult, and so this Christmas I would like to give you a gift: Go outside and pick up two small stones.

Ok, have you got your stones? Well, this is your gift. I know, it doesn't seem like much of a gift, but give me a chance to explain.

There is an old bit of Jewish wisdom that

on to this wisdom. Lloyd Ogilvie writes:

I want to give you a gift. It's one I need to receive every hour of every day. It is the gift of freedom to accept the idea that all of us are inadequate... No one has what it takes. The truth is we are inadequate to deal with the constantly changing, ever-escalating opportunities of life. We become gripped with fear when we try to be adequate on our own, because that simply isn't possible.<sup>1</sup>

By ourselves, apart from God, we are truly worthless and inadequate—this is the first stone. The second stone, however, triumphantly proclaims that God's love gives us all things. Philip Yancey writes:

God loves because of who God is, not because I have done anything to deserve it... It comes by grace, a priceless yet free gift that bestows worth on the most unlovable object. Some things are loved because they are worthy and some are worthy

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WESTSIDE &  
church



present:

**Option 1 – “Weekdays”**

Jan.17-19, 2012 (Tues, Wed, Thurs)  
8:30 am-5:30 pm - \$160 per person

**Option 2 – “Evenings/Weekend”**

Jan.19-21, 2012 (Thurs, Fri, Sat)  
Thurs/Fri 6-10 pm; Sat 8:30 am-5:30 pm - \$120 per person

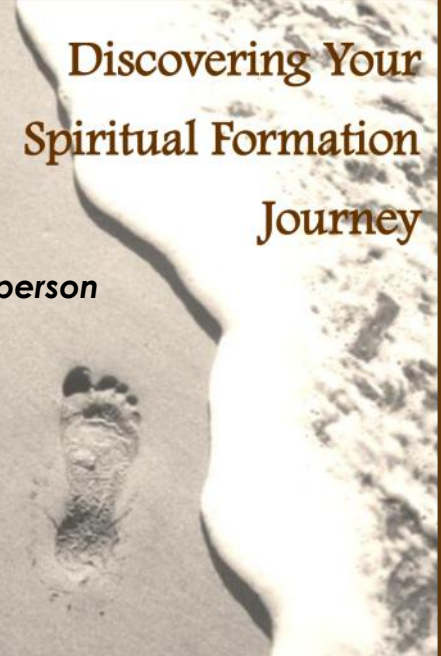
**For More Info. & To REGISTER:**

[www.ImagoChristi.org/Discoveries.aspx](http://www.ImagoChristi.org/Discoveries.aspx)  
[www.WestSide1.org/Grow](http://www.WestSide1.org/Grow)

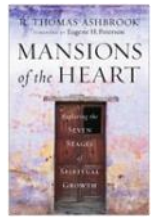
**Tom Ashbrook**, Discovery Facilitator  
TomAshbrook@comcast.net - 720.560.8178

**Dan Wodrich**, West Side Church  
DWodrich@westside1.org - 509.531.0800

Discovering Your  
Spiritual Formation  
Journey



*Spiritual Formation Discovery is an interactive group process of assessing where you are in your spiritual journey by bringing clarity to your past spiritual experience in light of a paradigm for spiritual growth and then discovering how you can cooperate with God more intentionally in your ongoing Spiritual Formation.*



**Dr. R. Thomas Ashbrook**, author of Mansions of the Heart, will bring his Imago Christi team to facilitate this regional event.

## Share The Love Of Christ

Angel Trees Are Coming! We need YOU...to help provide Christmas gifts for children in our community. Beginning Sun., Dec. 4, the Angel Trees will be set up in both narthexes and decorated with gift tags. Each tag represents a child's wish for something special this Christmas. If God is calling you to provide a gift for a child whose family has limited resources, please take a tag and sign up with the Angel Tree attendant. Wrapped gifts, with the Angel Tree tag securely attached, may be brought to the church office during the week or left by an Angel Tree on Sunday morning before the **Dec. 18 delivery date**. Your gift will provide an extra blessing for someone on Christmas Day.



Holiday Food Drive Is In Full Swing! The Deacons are collecting food for Christmas boxes for families in need in our community. Collection boxes for non-perishable items are located in both narthexes as well as near the Preschool office. Suggested items include: biscuit/muffin mixes, canned vegetables and fruit, cake mixes and frosting, cranberry sauce, beans/rice, stuffing mix, mashed potato mix and gravy packets, and Christmas-themed napkins. Ham and turkeys are also requested; if you would like to donate a ham or frozen turkey contact John Lipp (539.4659) or Andy Minister (783.7123). Your monetary contributions are welcome as well! Together, we can brighten the holiday for local families and share the love of Christ in our community.



## Senior Adult Ministry

**FOF-Folks Over Fifty** potluck Fri., Dec. 2, 5:45 pm, WS North Narthex. Please bring your table service and a main dish, salad, or dessert to share. Tyler and Rochelle Holm will be presenting about returning to Malawi while Rochelle works on her PhD. This is the same area where they were involved with digging wells twice before.

**Person To Person** lunch Mon., Dec. 12 and Jan. 2, 12:00 pm, WS North Narthex. Call 946.4656 if you need a ride.

## Men's Ministry

**Men's Breakfast Bible Study.** Saturday mornings, 7:30 am, WS South Upper Room, for breakfast, fellowship, and a Bible study.

**Sarah Squares,** spouses of Sarah Circle ladies, will meet for lunch on Wed., Dec. 14, 11:30 am, Sterlings Restaurant (Richland).

## All-Church Caroling & Chili Cook-off

Y'all come and bring your best chili to share - be sure to vote for your favorite! That will warm up your voice and bones to go out caroling! Hot chocolate and cookies will await you!

5:15 pm - Chili cook-off dinner (WSN Narthex)  
6:00 pm - Christmas caroling  
7:30 pm - Cocoa, cookies, and fellowship



## Mini Christmas Concert

Enjoy some quiet, reflective, musical moments during this busy Christmas season. Susan Eberlein and Patty Wilburn will play piano and pipe organ duets Sun., Dec. 11, 3:00 pm, WSN Sanctuary. There will be a chance to sing some favorite Christmas carols from the hymnal, too. Come and be blessed!

## Women's Ministry

**Morning Glory.** Join us Thursday mornings, 9:00-11:00 am, WS North, for fellowship, fun, prayer, laughter, and enlightenment. Come discover the golden nuggets God has for you! Need childcare? Contact Faye Serene (946.4656).

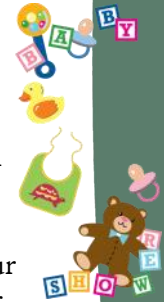
**Baby Shower for Sarah Franco.** Sat., Dec. 3, 10:00 am, WS North Narthex. Join us in celebrating with Sarah and Mike as they anticipate the arrival of baby Alexander Benjamin (and their children of the heart from Ethiopia within the next year). We will provide the cake and beverages - if you are able, please bring a small dish of fruit or vegetables. Also, please keep your gifts simple. They have what they need for their first arrival, but would appreciate your prayers and support as they look forward to expenses of the next year! Join us in celebrating with and praying for the Franco's!

**Knitters' Group.** Wed., Dec. 7, 1:00 pm, WS South Upper Room. All are invited to join and share their projects.

**Sarah Circle.** Wed., Dec. 14, 11:30 am, WS North Narthex. Please join us for a delicious salad potluck, faith-enriching devotions, and good fellowship. Our mission this month is donations of shelter items for the Domestic Violence Services of Benton and Franklin counties.

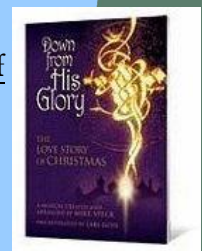
**Miriam Circle Lunch Bunch.** Tues., Dec. 20, 12:00 pm. Questions? Contact Patty Eastham (627.4248).

**Women's Retreat.** Save the Dates-Apr. 20-22, 2012, at Clearwater Lodge. Resort-type accommodations on a beautiful lake in the woods north of Spokane. More information to come!



## Special Choir Program

There will be a special musical presentation of Down from His Glory—The Love Story of Christmas by Mike Speck during worship on Sun., Dec. 18, 9:00 and 11:00 am, WSS Sanctuary. This presentation will feature Adult and Children's choirs, narration, Worship Band, and congregational singing. Come be blessed by the lively, exciting music and the real message of Christmas: Why Jesus left His throne in Heaven to come to Earth as a little baby.



# CFM



## UPCOMING EVENTS

DON'T MISS OUT

### **Sun., Dec. 4-Cherub Choir Sings in the 9:45 Service**

*Drop your 2-K children off in their classes; they will sing later in the 9:45 Service.*

### **Tues., Dec. 6-Play Group (WS North)**

*Come enjoy a time of free-play with your child and other parents and help your child make a Christmas Art Project.*

### **Wed., Dec. 7-All-Church Christmas Caroling (WS North)**

*Join us for dinner at 5:15 pm and caroling at 6:00 pm.*

### **Sun., Dec. 11-Last Week of Sunday School**

*Your children will enjoy as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!*

### **Thurs., Dec. 15-Rehearsal for 1st-5th Grade (WS South)**

*Your 1st-5th Grader is to practice with the Choir from 6:50-7:30 pm.*

### **Sun., Dec. 18-Special Christmas Services (WS South)**

*Worship at 9:00 & 11:00 am; 1st-5th Graders will sing at both services.*

### **Tues., Dec. 20-Parent Enrichment (WS North)**

*Hungry? Come and feast on traditional Christmas foods, on God's Story, and enjoy a recipe exchange!*

### **Sat., Dec. 24-Family Christmas Eve Service (WS South)**

*Join us for our 6:30 Service with childcare provided.*

### **Sun., Dec. 25-Family Christmas Day Service (WS North)**

*Worship at 10:00 am, no childcare, bring your children to worship as we celebrate Jesus' birthday!*

### **Sun., Jan. 1-Worship at 10:00 am (WS South)**

*No Sunday School, childcare available.*

## Promised Land Children Sing in Worship - Dec. 18

By Heather Smith



Our 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders will sing with the choir for our Special Christmas Services on Sun., Dec. 18, 9:00 & 11:00 am, WS South Sanctuary. They have been practicing during Sunday School, and their final practice will be with the choir on Thurs., Dec. 15, 6:50-7:30 pm, WS South

Sanctuary. Then on Sun., Dec. 18, they are to arrive at 8:30 am in WS South Upper Room, where they will prepare to sing at the 9:00 am service. Activities will be provided for them after they sing at 9:00 am until they sing again at 11:00 am. Parents are asked to pick up their children in the Upper Room at 11:30 am.

## 3 Year Old Class Receives Storybook Bibles

By Heather Smith



It is a joy to hear a 3 year old proclaim, "I love my Bible," after they receive their new Bible, which is exactly what happened on Sun., Nov. 6 when we handed out ten Storybook Bibles. Please continue to pray for these 3 year olds and their families that they would grow to know and be guided by God's Word .



# Shoebox Time On Wednesday Night

By Colleen Strachan

Thirty-four children around the world will get the blessing of a Christmas box and the chance to hear the gospel because of Wednesdays @ West Side. On Nov. 9, the final night of Wednesdays @ West Side, Children and Family Ministry partnered with BASIC Mid-High ministry to pack boxes for Operation Christmas Child. All children and youth participated, from our littlest class of infants-3 year olds, our 4 year old-1<sup>st</sup> grade class, our 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders, and finally our mid-high students and their high school leaders. It was so exciting when we all joined together to “send-off” our boxes with a short time of fellowship and prayer. We had fun guessing where our boxes might go and sharing jokes and riddles—some of those 4 year olds know great jokes! Most importantly, we prayed a blessing over our boxes and the children who will receive them. Operation Christmas Child provides an online check-in for boxes where you can receive



a tracking number for your box, so we will find out where in the world our boxes have gone. Operation Christmas Child is a wonderful ministry that not only blesses children overseas, but helps us to build relationships as we work together to serve others.

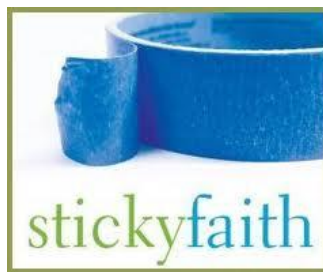
West Side Church and Preschool generously donated 127 boxes this year to Operation Christmas Child. Praise the Lord and thank you to all who participated!



## Sharing Your Faith With Our Youth

By Rev. Stuart Strachan

Recently while driving to the Oregon Coast for a few days of study leave, Colleen and I listened to Kara Powell’s new book, Sticky Faith: Every Day Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Teens. Kara Powell is the director of the Fuller Youth Institute, and the book is the result of countless hours of research, interviews, surveys, etc... to discover what helps students keep their faith once they graduate from high school and step “into the real world.” One of the easiest takeaways from this book is the importance of not only talking to students about their faith, but also *sharing your own*. Powell and her team believe that parents sharing their own faith can be a powerful way for students to imagine their adult life as faithful Christians.



So how about it? If you are a parent of a teenager, try sharing some of your own growth in the Lord. What were some of the peaks and valleys in your faith that have helped shape who you are today? What is God currently teaching you about? What was your faith like when you were in middle/high school? Even if you are not a parent of a teenager, but a grandparent, an uncle, a mentor, try to find a time when you can connect with a student about your faith. A big part of these conversations is helping students realize not only that their parents have an active faith life, but that they also struggle in the valleys, and shine on the top of the peaks. Share your faith with a student today: it could make all the difference.

In Christ, Rev. Stu

# December

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

## Have YOU registered for an Imago Christi Discovery?



"Weekdays" Jan. 17-19, 2012, 8:30am-5:30pm, \$160 per person OR

"Evenings/Weekend" Jan. 19-21, 2012, Thurs/Fri 6:00-10:00pm & Sat. 8:30am-5:30pm, \$120 per person

REGISTER at [www.ImagoChristi.org/Discoveries.aspx](http://www.ImagoChristi.org/Discoveries.aspx) today!

Early Birds Bible 6:10am-Tibat  
Tutoring 7:30am  
Morning Glory 9  
Fellowship Mtg  
HS Drop-In 3:00p  
Pure Desire 4:30  
Adult Choir 7:00  
Worship Team 7

Worship-2nd Advent: **4**  
CS & Children's Church  
8:15am-WSS  
CS & Sunday School 9:45am  
-WSS  
TS 11:00am-WSN  
New Member Lunch 12:30pm  
Youth Worship Team 4:30pm  
Instrumental Practice 5:30pm  
Fuel (HS) 6:30pm-WSS

Kitchen Training 5:30pm **5**  
-WSN  
Cub Scouts 6:30pm-WSS

Pure Desire 6:00am-WSN **6**  
Tutoring 7:30am-WSS  
Play Group 9:15am-WSN  
Adult Bible Study 10:30am  
Property Mtg 5:15pm-WSN  
Small Group 5:30pm-WSN  
Alpha 6:15pm-WSN  
ESL/Citizenship 6:30pm-WSS  
Worship Mtg 7:00pm-WSN

Knitters' Group 1:00pm-WSS **7**  
**Christmas Caroling Event-WSN:**  
**5:15pm-Chili Cookoff**  
**6:00pm-Christmas Caroling**  
**7:30 pm-Fellowship & Cocoa**  
  
Deacons 7:00pm-WSN

Early Birds Bible 6:10am-Tibat  
Tutoring 7:30am  
Morning Glory 9  
HS Drop-In 3:00p  
Pure Desire 4:30  
Missions Council  
6:30pm-WSN  
Adult Choir 7:00  
Worship Team 7

Worship-3rd Advent: **11**  
CS & Children's Church  
8:15am-WSS  
CS & Sunday School 9:45am  
-WSS  
TS 11:00am-WSN  
**Mini Christmas Concert 3:00pm**  
Instrumental Practice 5:30pm  
Fuel (HS) 6:30pm-WSS

Person to Person 12:00pm **12**  
-WSN  
Cub Scouts 6:30pm-WSS

Pure Desire 6:00am-WSN **13**  
Tutoring 7:30am-WSS  
Adult Bible Study  
10:30am-WSN  
Small Group 5:30pm-WSN  
ESL/Citizenship Party 6:30pm  
Youth Mtg 6:30pm-WSN

Sarah Circle 11:30am-WSN **14**  
Sarah Squares 11:30am  
-Sterlings Restaurant

Early Birds Bible 6:10am-Tibat  
Tutoring 7:30am  
Morning Glory 9  
Fellowship Mtg 1  
HS Drop-In 3:00p  
Pure Desire 4:30p  
Adult Choir 7:00p  
Worship Team 7

**Worship-4th Advent: 18**  
**9:00 & 11:00am-WSS**  
**NO Sunday School**  
**10:15am-Potluck (fellowship & finger foods)-WSN**  
Youth Worship Team 4:30pm  
Fuel (HS) Christmas Party  
6:30pm-WSS

**Church Office-CLOSED 19**

Pure Desire 6:00am-WSN **20**  
Parent Enrichment 9:15am  
Adult Bible Study 10:30am  
-WSN  
Miriam Circle 12:00pm  
Small Group 5:30pm-WSN  
Property Mtg 7:00pm-WSN

**BASIC (MS) Christmas Party 6:00pm-WSS 21**

Early Birds Bible 6:10am-Tibat  
Morning Glory 9  
Pure Desire 4:30p  
**Jan 2012 SERVANT**  
**Deadline-5:00pm**  
Missions Prayer 6  
Worship Team 7

**Christmas Day Worship: 25**  
**Informal Family Service**  
**10:00am-WSS**  
**NO Sunday School**



**Church Office-CLOSED 26**

Pure Desire 6:00am-WSN **27**  
Adult Bible Study 10:30am  
-WSN  
Small Group 5:30pm-WSN

**28**

Early Birds Bible 6:10am-Tibat  
Morning Glory 9  
Pure Desire 4:30p  
Worship Team 7

# WEST SIDE church

day	Friday	Saturday
Study ts' -WSS :00am-WSN :15pm-WSN om-WSN pm-WSS pm-WSN :00pm-WSS	<b>1</b> Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN FOF-Folks Over Fifty 5:45pm -WSN	<b>3</b> Men's Breakfast Bible Study 7:30am-WSS Essential Tenets Training 9:00am-WSN <b>Shower for Sarah Franco</b> 10:00am-WSN
Study -WSS :00am-WSN om-WSN pm-WSS l & Prayer	<b>8</b> Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN	<b>10</b> Men's Breakfast Bible Study 7:30am-WSS Essential Tenets Training 9:00am-WSN <b>Patty Old West Book Signing</b> 2:00pm-Barracuda Coffee Co. (2171 Van Giesen)
Study ts' -WSS :00am-WSN :15pm-WSN om-WSN om-WSS om-WSN :00pm-WSS	<b>15</b> Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN	<b>17</b> Men's Breakfast Bible Study 7:30am-WSS
Study ts' :00am-WSN om-WSS <b>NT Newsletter</b> <b>pm WSN</b> :30pm-WSN :00pm-WSS	<b>22</b> Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve Worship:</b> <b>Candlelight Services</b> 6:30pm & 8:00pm-WSS 
Study ts' :00am-WSN pm-WSS :00pm-WSS	<b>29</b> Pure Desire 5:30am-WSN	<b>31</b> 



## Nov. 30 - Advent Celebration

- 5:15pm - Family dinner (WSN Narthex)
- 6:00pm - Advent activities
- 7:30pm - Optional fellowship time

## Dec. 7 - All-Church Caroling

- 5:15pm - Chili cook-off (WSN Narthex)
- 6:00pm - Christmas caroling in neighborhood
- 7:30pm - Cookies, cocoa, and fellowship

## Dec. 11 - Mini Christmas Concert

- 3:00pm - Piano and organ (WSN Sanctuary)

## Dec. 18 - Two Worship Services

- 9:00 & 11:00 am - Worship (WSS Sanctuary)
- NO Sunday School
- 10:15am - Potluck (WSN Narthex)
- Delivery of Christmas boxes

## Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

- Candlelight Worship Services:
- 6:30\* & 8:00 pm (WSS Sanctuary)
- \*Childcare only at 6:30pm service

## Dec. 25 - Christmas Day

- Informal Family Worship Service:
- 10:00am (WSS Sanctuary)
- NO Sunday School - No childcare

## Jan. 1 - New Year's Day

- One Worship Service Only:
- 10:00am (WSS Sanctuary)
- NO Sunday School

## Welcome Patrick Smith & Family - Our New Worship Director

The Worship Director Search Committee would like to introduce to you our new Worship Director, Patrick Smith and his family, Angel, Josh (8th grade) and Matthew (4th grade). They currently live in Snoqualmie, WA. Patrick's heart for worship and his musical abilities is what first attracted us to him. While interviewing with our committee, it became evident he is a very gifted worship director, and his entire family has a great desire to serve the Lord.

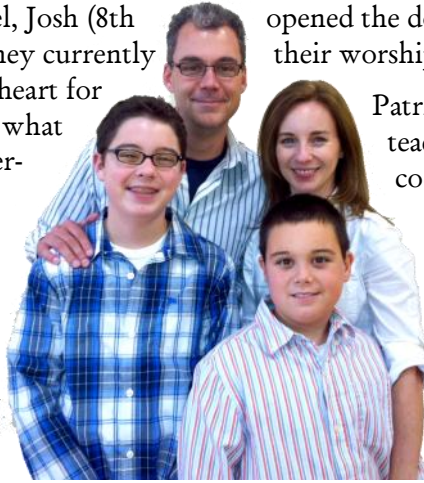
Patrick was raised in West Virginia and North Carolina. He is the son of a Baptist pastor and has been involved in music, either playing the piano, singing or playing the guitar for worship, since he was in 6th grade. Patrick and his family moved to Washington in 2004 after being transferred by Microsoft as a program manager. He continued working at

Microsoft while being on the worship team as interim worship director for his church. The Lord opened the doors for him to work full-time as their worship director in 2009.

Patrick's wife, Angel, has a degree in teaching the hearing impaired with cochlear implants.

Patrick will officially start on Dec. 1, working with the audio/visual team before he starts leading up-front in January. His family hopes to move here after Angel finishes her degree in bookkeeping in March.

Please welcome them and continue to give them the warm greetings you gave when they first visited us. We are praising the Lord for His perfect timing and answers to all of our prayers.



### The Missions Council has designated Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) for our Christmas offering this year.

CEF is a Bible-centered, worldwide organization that is dedicated to seeing every child reached with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Please consider making a donation to Child Evangelism Fellowship during this season of Christmas.



*You Have An Epic Role To Play!*  
*Get threaded into the biggest story of all time.*



Jan. 17-May 8, 2012  
Tuesday Evenings 6:15-9:15 pm  
Central Church  
(1124 Stevens Dr, Richland)

Questions: Dave Shupe, Coordinator, [midcolumbiaperspectives@charter.net](mailto:midcolumbiaperspectives@charter.net)  
\$100 scholarships available from Missions Council to West Side Church members

**Pastor John Piper:**

*"Perspectives has been essential in mobilizing hundreds of lay people in our church to be World Christians."*

**Perspectives Student:**

*"Every believer should take this course. It is imperative in order to understand the whole of scripture and the why of our presence on earth!"*

# ESL/Citizenship Program Update

By Robin Morris

The ESL/Citizenship program has had an outstanding fall season with new volunteers and new students as well as returning staff and students. Representing 15 countries, our students have come this fall to improve their English skills or to study to become American citizens. Some are learning English for the first time and are starting with the alphabet, while others are working on conversation and writing skills.

Our move to West Side South required some adjustments, but since flexibility is the key word for this program, we have adapted and succeeded in providing a valuable resource for immigrants in our community.

In November we celebrated Thanksgiving with a traditional all-American celebration complete with turkey and all the trimmings. Students brought a dish from their culture and their families to West

Side Activity Center for a gala event. Entertainment was provided by the White Bluffs Elementary steel drum band, directed by Ben Leggett, son of Bob and Lil Leggett, and Tom Abrams on accordion. It is always fun to watch the newcomers as they try turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, and dressing for the first time. Special thanks go to our chef extraordinaire, John Lipp, and his right hand, Harriet Lipp. Also helping in the kitchen this year were Pam and Fred Yapuncich. We couldn't have done it without them. Thanks guys for continuing to support our program.

We will have a dessert special at our last meeting in December and then take a break until the new year.



## 2011 Harvest Report

By Alissa Watkins

Thanks everyone for another fantastic year! God has provided yet another bountiful harvest.

Since 2006, volunteers have harvested 1,234,257 individual servings of a variety of fresh produce. All of the fruit and vegetables go to the local food banks, completely free of charge. The 2012 gleaning

season will begin next June, so consider joining us next year!

Crops harvested: Cherries, plums, apricots, blueberries, peaches, tomatoes, watermelons, potatoes, apples, onions, and pumpkins.

Pounds harvested:	86,702
Individual servings provided:	233,061
New types of produce harvested:	4
Number of gleaning events:	40
New agricultural donors:	7
Number of new trained volunteers:	90
Volunteer hours logged:	737

[www.fields-of-grace.com](http://www.fields-of-grace.com)





**Wise Gift Giving**


As you shop, select appropriate gifts for your sponsored child.

- Fits in manilla envelope
- Light weight, long-lasting
- Educational, sharable
- Won't melt or dry out, no liquid
- Non-electric (no batteries)
- Wordless or in French
- Boys: T-shirt, baseball cap
- Girls: Jewelry-making supplies
- All: Harmonica, frisbee
- Hard packaging off, price tag on

Pick up *Letter, Photo & Gift Ideas* brochure by kids' photos outside office.



Why pray?  
How can I help my family know God?  
How do I know I am forgiven?



Alpha

## Alpha - An opportunity to explore the meaning of life.

- How can I be sure God is there?
- What is the meaning of life?
- What happens when we die?
- What relevance does Jesus have for our lives?

**Ladies:** Come ask your questions and find answers as you explore faith in an open, friendly environment. A tasty brunch is followed by a talk and discussion groups on Thursday mornings for 12 weeks. Come and join us! Feel free to invite a friend!!

Childcare available. Women's Alpha begins Thurs., Jan. 26, 9:15-11:15 am, WS South Upper Room.

For more information, contact Julie Coppock (943.5565) or Tamara Brown (627.5277).

**Coming Soon ... Women's Alpha!**



McIntosh Memorial  
**Library**  
mmlibrary.org

**Book Donations.** Because the library does not yet have a permanent home, and is quickly outgrowing its interim location, we are currently unable to accept donated books. Please do not leave book dona-

tions in the library. Books can be taken to either the Mid-Columbia Library or Richland Library, where book sales support their library programs.

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](mailto:staff@mmlibrary.org).

## Patty Old West Book Signing

You are invited to a book signing for the fourth book in the Little People series, The Wizard Strikes Twice. In this continuation of the adventures of the wee folk only half a thumb high, they find themselves under attack not once, but twice!

Date: Sat., Dec. 10

Time: 2:00-4:00 pm

Place: Barracuda Coffee Co.

(2171 Van Giesen, Richland)

Both hardback and paperback copies of The Wizard Strikes Twice will be available for sale. If you

missed getting the previous three books (The Wizard of Wozzle, Squidgy on the Brook, or Gibbins Brook Farm), they will also be available. If you have any books you would like Patty to sign, this is the perfect opportunity.

Can't make the event? Go to [www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore](http://www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore) and search for The Wizard Strikes Twice.



## From The Finance Office

**2012 Pledge Cards.** Please remember to turn in your 2012 pledge card. You may drop them off in the Finance Office or place them in the offering plate. These pledges are important as they help Session understand what giving will look like as they plan the 2012 Operating Budget. If you did not receive pledge cards, please contact the Finance Office.

**2011 Giving Summary.** Pledged givers in 2011 should have received a copy of their giving summary through Oct. 31 in the mail by Dec. 2. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Sharon Isaacson or Diane Pratt in the Finance Office (946.4656) between 9:00 am-5:00 pm Tuesday and Wednesday or before 12:00 pm Thursday.

**Year-end Donations.** Please allow plenty of time for year-end donations to reach us. If your check is mailed on or before Dec. 31, 2011, the IRS allows

you to claim the gift as a tax deduction in 2011. If you wish to hand-deliver your year-end giving, it must be in the Finance Office box by 12:00 pm (noon) on Fri., Dec. 30.

**Financial Data Through Oct. 31, 2011:** Income \$815,034, \*Expenses \$818,686; 2011 Budget \$1,048,148, 2011 Reserve \$76,232. (If expenses exceed income at the end of the year, Reserves will be used to make up the difference.) Questions - contact Mike Erhart (734.8433).

Thank you all for your generous giving to West Side.



## He Gives Us All Things! - cont.

because they are loved—theologically, we fit the latter category.<sup>2</sup>

Augustine put it like this: “By loving the unlovable, You made me lovable.” For the follower of Jesus, our confidence, our adequacy, and our self-image are only properly established by what Jesus gives us, and what he gives us is His value, His adequacy, and His image—He gives us all things!

I hope you experience the fullness of life with Jesus this Christmas season.

Blessings in Christ, Ralph



<sup>1</sup> Quoted in *Facing the Future Without Fear*, by Lloyd Ogilvie.

<sup>2</sup> Quoted in *Reaching for the Invisible God*, by Philip Yancey.



New  
Sermon Series  
Nov. 27-Dec. 25

**Advent: The God Who Comes**



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## The Hints of Christmas

*Dec. 7: All-Church Caroling & Fellowship 5:15 pm Chili Cook-off, 6:00 pm Caroling  
7:30 pm Fellowship with Cookies and Cocoa. WS North*

*Dec. 11: Mini Christmas Music Concert, 3:00 pm, WS North*

*Dec. 18: Two Worship Services Only, 9:00 & 11:00 am, WS South  
10:15 am (between services) Potluck & Fellowship, Delivery of Christmas Baskets*

*Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, 6:30 & 8:00 pm, WS South*

*Dec. 25: Christmas Day Informal Family Worship, 10:00 am, WS South*

*Jan. 1: New Year's Day - One Service Only, 10:00 am, WS South*

### 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 :: Assistant to the  
Director-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

West Side Church  
615 Wright Ave, Richland, WA 99352  
509.946.4656 www.westside1.org

Want to receive our newsletter via email?  
Contact us at [info@westside1.org](mailto:info@westside1.org) or call the Church Office.