



▶ *Blessings all around*  
Guest list included  
Holy Spirit..... 2



▶ *Living Forward*  
NW Disciples special  
assembly ..... 1, 3



▶ *Potluck / Movie Nights*  
Sharing a meal and  
watching a flick.....3

• ISSUE 5 • VOLUME 16 • MAY 2009

# First Christian *Chimes*

...CALLED BY GOD TO LIVE AS A BLESSING...

## Important Decisions: Northwest Region's Special Assembly

**NORTHWEST DISCIPLES WILL COME TOGETHER FOR A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY  
MAY 16 AT ENGLEWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN YAKIMA, WASHINGTON**

At the Living Forward special northwest regional assembly, congregational representatives will consider the RISE Ministry Plan and the recommendation of the Regional Minister Search Team.

The RISE Ministry Plan is the culmination of nearly three years of intentional work by the region to provide consensus and direction for our ministry together as northwest Disciples of Christ congregations. The Center for Parish Development has given guidance in this process, similar in focus to our own congregation's PaTH (Practicing and Teaching Hope) transformation work. The proposed ministry plan can be read at [www.disciplesnw.org/rise.htm](http://www.disciplesnw.org/rise.htm); copies are also available in the church foyer.

The assembly will also be asked to affirm a call for a new regional minister to Rev. Sandra Morgan Messick. A native of San Diego, Calif., Rev. Messick received a B.A. in Speech Communication from San Diego State University in 1985, an M.Div. from Christian Theological Seminary, and was ordained in 1989. She has served congregations in Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Washington.



**Rev. Sandy Messick and husband Tom**

Since moving to the Northwest Region nearly 10 years ago, Sandy has served as Pastor at North Hill Christian Church in Spokane and Interim Pastor at University Christian Church in Seattle. She has actively supported the regional transformation process (RISE) by serving on the Coordinating Team, Vision Panel, Resources Design Team and Writing Team. Committed to congregational transformation, she has also participated in both the Journey of Discovery and New Beginnings programs working with several churches around the Region.

*Continued on Page 3*

# Friday Night Blessings

**“WHO PLEASURE GIVES,  
SHALL JOY RECEIVE.”**

*~Benjamin Franklin, 1706 - 1790*



“I got my shoes wet yesterday and they’re still wet.”

“Do you have any Tylenol?”

“Do you need help?”

“Bingo!”

“I’m going to lay on my cot right now;  
it’s exhausting being in the cold weather all day.”

“Could I get some Tums?”

“Let me help you with that.”

“Bingo!”

“Thanks for the breakfast and the lunch.”

These are a few of the comments we heard each Friday evening as we hosted Freezing Nights for our friends. They would spend the day trying to stay warm and dry in the wind, rain, snow and freezing weather, and the nights they would spend in one of the local churches. In the morning our friends would be up by 6 am, pack their personal belongings, pick the cots up and load them in the van, eat breakfast, and be back out to spend another day trying to stay warm and dry. Since we hosted Friday evenings we were able to let them sleep until 7 o’clock Saturday morning.

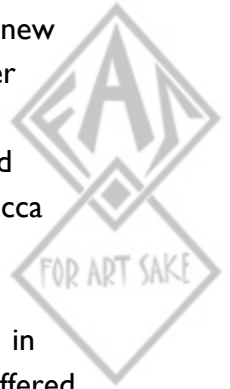
We are pleased to say that First Christian Church of Puyallup embraced the Freezing Nights program. People donated food, clothes, money, supplies, Bingo prizes and their time. However you supported the program is much appreciated by our Freezing Nights friends; they felt loved and cared for... the Holy Spirit is alive and touching lives in FCC Puyallup.

Terry & Bonnie  
Blessed coordinators

## FOR ART SAKE!

Have you noticed the new artwork gracing our foyer and narthex? A chance meeting last fall proved serendipitous when Rebecca Westernen, multi-media artist and owner of For Art Sake, a small art shop in Gig Harbor generously offered to exhibit various artists’ work at our church. Currently, a four-painting series entitled Loaves and Fishes and an acrylic on canvas piece called Sunday’s Window are on display; the artwork will be exchanged every couple of months.

For information on Ms. Westernen’s art or that of the other artists in her gallery, visit [www.forartsakeinc.com](http://www.forartsakeinc.com). For Art Sake participates in the Gig Harbor Art Walk the first Saturday of each month—stop in for refreshments and to meet featured artists at 8805 N Harborview Drive in Gig Harbor. Make a sunny Spring day of it!



# Important Decisions

*Continued from Page 1*

Rev. Messick's husband, Tom, is Director of Operations and Blue Card Executive for Premera Blue Cross. They live in the Mukilteo area, north of Seattle, with their two children, Sarah and John.

Also on the agenda for the special regional assembly, Interim Regional Minister Rebecca Hale will share a report of her recent pilgrimage to the Dominican Republic and Haiti with Global Ministries, and special guests Liz and Doug Searles, our Global Mission Partners in Poland, will be in attendance. A celebration of Rev. Hale's ministry with us is also planned.

Our congregation is eligible to send four voting delegates to the special assembly. Contact one of our church board chairs (Terry Forslund, Bonnie Goddard, or Peggy Stack) or Pastor Nancy for more information.



## Potluck and Movie Night

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL EXPANDS TO FRIDAY EVENINGS—ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO THE FUN!**

Bring a dish, salad or dessert to share and come join the fun! Bill Robey's adult Sunday School class, currently studying Phillip Yancey's book *What's So Amazing About Grace?*, extends a church-wide invitation to anyone interested in gathering for a potluck meal, a movie and a brief discussion about the topic of grace.

### SAVE THE DATES!

- *Babette's Feast* - Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm
- *Les Miserables* - Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm

For more information, contact Bill or Connie Robey.

**SPRING FEVER!**  
Sign up in the foyer for mowing.

Tours of the lawn care equipment and opportunities for team mowing are available. Contact Ken Forslund, Property Chair.

## Giving Totals:

| March 29     |           | April 5      |           | April 12             |           | April 19     |           |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| General Fund | \$1001.00 | General Fund | \$2799.85 | Anita Smith Memorial | \$25.00   | Easter       | \$3.00    |
|              |           |              |           | Easter               | \$255.00  | General Fund | \$1088.02 |
|              | \$1001.00 |              | \$2799.85 | General Fund         | \$2454.00 |              |           |
|              |           |              |           |                      | \$2734.00 |              | \$1091.02 |

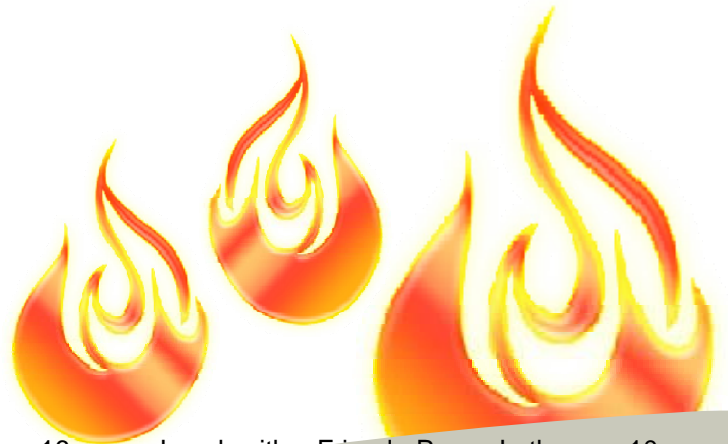
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Pastor Nancy Gowler Johnson  
623 - 9th Ave. SW  
P.O. Box 516  
Puyallup, WA 98371  
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## life of the church

All-age Studies.....Sundays - 9:30 am  
 Service of Worship.....Sundays - 11 am  
 Women's Study (BRB).....Wednesdays - 10 am  
 Choir Practice .....Wednesdays - 7 pm  
 Crafters Group (Lunch Bunch).....Thursdays - 10 am  
 Adult Bible Study ..... Saturdays - 8 am  
 1 ..... Potluck & Movie—*Babette's Feast* - 6 pm  
 5 ..... Cinco de Mayo  
 5 ..... Book Club - 7 pm  
 9 ..... Gwinwood Work Day - 9 am  
 10 ..... Mothers Day  
 16 ..... Special NW Regional Assembly—Yakima, WA



16 ..... Lunch with a Friend - Peace Lutheran - 10 am  
 25 ..... Memorial Day  
 26 ..... Diaconate Meeting - 7 pm  
 31 ..... Pentecost Sunday

## may birthdays

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1..... Larry Dexter       | 21 ..... Karl Raup      |
| 5..... Chuck Kusick       | 22 ..... Doris Turner   |
| 5..... Vi Wick            | 23 ..... Terry Forslund |
| 6..... Katie Peterson     | 25 ..... Joy Best       |
| 11..... Alexis Thompson   | 28 ..... Lois Pfeffer   |
| 17..... Breanna Kosakoski | 30 ..... Tyler Pasola   |
| 17..... Bryan Kosakoski   |                         |

## anniversaries

8 ..... Laurie & Cary Stanhope  
 29 ..... Nancy & Pete Freeman  
 29 .... Barbara & Dennis Schmitt

## baptisms

May 19, 2002 ..... Robin Crabb