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• ISSUE 5 • VOLUME 17 • MAY 2010

First Christian *Chimes*

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

A Summer Sermon Series that starts with YOU!

PEOPLE'S CHOICE SERMONS TO BE BASED ON YOUR SUGGESTIONS—STARTS MAY 30TH AT 10 AM

taking requests

What have you always wondered about?

This summer Pastor Nancy will offer sermons on topics chosen by you in an "everything you always wanted to hear a sermon about but were afraid to ask" series. You may be curious about a biblical text, a theological issue or doctrine, or some other thing that makes you say, "Hmmm."

To submit a question or sermon idea, you may anonymously drop your question in the mail or the box in the foyer, or call or e-mail Pastor Nancy (nancy@fccpuyallup.com), the church office (info@fccpuyallup.com), the church Robin Crabb (webmaster@fccpuyallup.com).

What do Disciples believe?

What is the 'priesthood of all believers'?

What is the church's mission?

How do we know God's will?

How can I make a difference?

How much money should I give the church?

Do I really have to forgive?

What is the grace of God?

Where are all the kids?

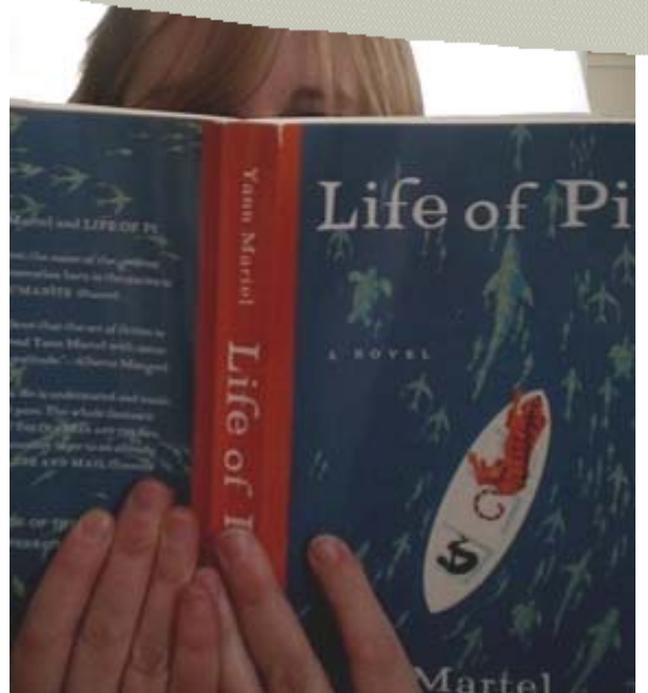
?? What does it mean... I've always wondered... I'd like to hear about... Why do we... ??

May's Book of the Month

BOOK CLUB READS *LIFE OF PI* BY YANN MARTEL

“Yann Martel's imaginative and unforgettable *Life of Pi* is a magical reading experience, an endless blue expanse of storytelling about adventure, survival, and ultimately, faith. The precocious son of a zookeeper, 16-year-old Pi Patel is raised in India, where he tries on various faiths for size. Planning a move to Canada, his father packs up the family and their menagerie and they hitch a ride on a freighter. After a harrowing shipwreck, Pi finds himself adrift in the Pacific Ocean, trapped on a 26-foot lifeboat with a wounded zebra, a spotted hyena, a seasick orangutan, and a 450-pound Bengal tiger named Richard Parker...In rich, hallucinatory passages, Pi recounts the harrowing journey, elegantly cataloging the endless passage of time and his struggles to survive...” --Brad Parsons, Amazon.com

**Discussion on April's book, *Half Broke Horses*, will take place on a special date—
Tuesday, May 11th at 7 pm at the home of Jan Blankley,
2403 Shaw Road in Puyallup, 845-3373.**



Pentecost Sunday: Wearing Red

CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT—SUNDAY, MAY 23RD



Decorated with scripture, kites, “flames,” fabric or painted windows, there's always lots of RED in the sanctuary on Pentecost!

Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, marks the end of the 50-day season of Easter. On Pentecost we celebrate the birthday of the church, recalling the story of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the early believers in Jerusalem (Acts 2:1-21). The tradition of Pentecost reaches back to at least the third century and is mentioned by the church leader Tertullian, who refers to the season of Pentecost as a “joyous celebration.” Historically, Pentecost and Easter were the two most prominent days for baptisms of new converts.

Sanctuaries fill with red on Pentecost Sunday symbolizing the flame-like appearance of the Holy Spirit to those first followers of Christ. It is a fitting color for a birthday celebration; full of passion and vibrancy, the color red encourages the church to “look alive!” We celebrate that the church is born anew through the winds of the Holy Spirit—life is different. God welcomes us into a new community of creativity and enthusiasm, so wear red on Pentecost and join other people of faith as we seek to live large in the kingdom of God.



*“End of the spring & here she comes back:
Hi-hi-hi-hi there!
Them summer days, those summer days!”
--Sly & the Family Stone, 1969*

Come on in— the water’s fine!

**SUMMERTIME WORSHIP SCHEDULE ALLOWS
FLEXIBLE INVOLVEMENT—JOIN THE TEAM!**

Have you ever considered being part of the Worship ministry but just weren’t sure about taking the plunge? Want to meet and learn more about your church family members? Ready to face the challenge of speaking in front of others? Now’s the perfect time to test the waters on a trial basis: sign up to greet or read scripture one Sunday (or more) this summer.

Each summer Sunday starting May 30th two greeters will invite folks into the first phase of our shared worship—the gathering time—an essential time for preparing hearts and minds for worship, and for some, the morning’s initial glimpse of God in community.

Then, during our service of Worship (10 am throughout summer), one reader per week will call our attention and attitudes to the day’s holy Scripture texts.

Sign up in the foyer now or contact Greeting Team Coordinator Katheryn Kusick or Worship Chair Robin Crabb for more information.

Hi-hi-hi-hi There! Those Summer Days! CHURCH SCHEDULE CHANGES MAY 30TH

Like any season, summer has its ups and downs. It conjures up images of cool sipped drinks, tire swings, picnics... sunburns, ants and mosquito bites! In the life of the church, summer is a time when FCC’s Sunday morning studies suspend and teachers and students alike steep in what they’ve learned and taught during the church school year. We find new ways to coexist as a community of God’s people. And, with an extra hour on Sunday mornings, our time of worshiping together shifts to one hour earlier.

While delight in the lazy days of summer is heartily encouraged, you are also urged to continue to feed your spiritual wonderment and inquisitiveness. Sunday School is out, but it’s not a hall pass to play hooky! **We hope you’ll join us for Worship Sundays at 10 am starting May 30th** as we continue our quest to find God among us and to live out our call to be the hands and feet of Christ.

Peek into FCC’s Future: PaTH’s* Ministry Plan Highlighted in Sermons

(April 25th-May 16th)

- ✓ Spirit-Formed Living
- ✓ Mission-Centered Living
- ✓ Generous Living I
- ✓ Generous Living II

Miss one? Visit the audio sermons page
at www.fccpuyallup.com

**Please join us for a
taco bar, dessert & banter
May 16th after Worship**

***Practicing and Teaching Hope
Congregational Transformation Process**

Thanks, thanks

As we move from one season to another,

greeting team members:

ercie borrowman

elnore hall

katheryn kusick, coordinator

donna sannes

vicki & ray smith

peggy & del stack

joyce riffe

doris & don turner

scripture team:

karrie cheek

robin crabb

jayne isch

karl raup

ray smith

study facilitators:

mitch becker

joy clark

jeanne crabb

herb crabtree

terry forslund

bonita goatz

nancy gowler johnson

katie peterson

bill robey



& more thanks.

some heartfelt appreciation is in order!

freezing nights:

bonnie goddard, coordinator

terry forslund, coordinator

“A program like
Freezing Nights
is a success because
so many people helped
in so many ways.
Over the five months
we had sixty-plus
homeless people spend
Friday night with us.”

-bonnie goddard,
fcc puyallup site co-coordinator

We are so thankful
to everyone who donated

- money to run the program
- food, water, snacks, coffee & supplies for the evening meal, breakfast & lunches
- home-baked cookies
- gift cards for Christmas gifts
- gently used warm clothing
- gloves & hand warmers
- Bingo prizes

and to all those who

- came Friday nights to visit with guests, help set up, prepare a light meal, and play games
- braved spending the night
- came early Saturday to be chefs
- moved chairs & set up tables
- helped with grocery shopping
- cleaned up on Saturday morning
- transported guests to the doctor & hospital
- drove guests to their work places

Generous Living

HOW TO LIVE A MEANINGFUL LIFE

Many Americans live with two opposite feelings. On one hand, they want to experience meaning and purpose in their lives. On the other hand, they often feel that they are running on empty.

In his classic novel, *Les Miserables*, Victor Hugo tells us how to eliminate that second feeling. The bishop befriends Jean Valjean and gives him lodging. Valjean repays that kindness by stealing the bishop's valuable candlesticks. After the bishop reports the theft, the police magistrate questions Valjean in the bishop's presence. As the interrogation progresses, Valjean seems headed for jail. At that point, the bishop unexpectedly retracts his charges and offers a plausible reason for why the candlesticks are missing.

Jean Valjean is amazed. When he and the bishop are alone, he says, "Why did you do that? You know I am guilty."

The bishop replies, "Life is for giving."

Why do churches receive an offering in their worship services? Some people say, "Because the church needs the money." That is only part of the answer. Even if a wealthy benefactor fully underwrote our congregation's expenses, we would still need to provide people with the opportunity to give an offering in our worship services. Weekly giving teaches us—and reminds us because we keep forgetting—that life without unselfish giving is life without meaning and purpose.

Victor Hugo is right. Life is for giving.

-- Herb Miller, *Stewardship Nuggets*

For it is in giving
that we receive.

-St. Francis of Assisi

GIVING TOTALS:

March 28

General Fund* \$1620.00
Easter Offering \$ 29.00

April 4

General Fund* \$2262.00
Easter Offering \$ 209.50

April 11

General Fund* \$ 995.00

April 18

General Fund* \$ 772.00

April 25

General Fund* \$3465.04
Week of Compassion \$ 20.00

***To meet the 2010 General Offering budgeted income, weekly General Fund giving must average \$1,346.15.**



Return Service Requested

First Christian Church of Puyallup (Disciples of Christ)
Pastor Nancy Gowler Johnson
623 - 9th Ave. SW
P.O. Box 516
Puyallup, WA 98371
(253) 845-6232

Still haven't told us your news preference?

How would you like to receive *The Chimes* newsletter?

Please take a moment to fill out & return this form:

My name is
(required):

- 1. Mail *The Chimes* to me 2. E-mail *The Chimes* to me 3. Print me a copy to pick up 4. Prefer not to receive; I'll read it on the website
- Don't change a thing! My e-mail address is: Set one aside for me! No thanks—Opt Out

Return to: FCC Puyallup
623 - 9th Ave. SW
PO Box 516
Puyallup, WA 98371

Call us: 253.845.6232
E-mail us: webmaster@fccpuyallup.com
info@fccpuyallup.com
nancy@fccpuyallup.com

GWINWOOD SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE!

Camp	Entering Grades	Dates
Kids Camp	2, 3	July 7 - 10
Junior Camp	4, 5, 6	July 6 - 10
Chi Rho Camp	7, 8, 9	July 12 - 17
CYF Camp	10, 11, 12, Grads	July 12 - 17

Let's Mow!

Sign your name on the sheet in the foyer to take part in this necessary (and instantly gratifying) activity!

For an introductory session or access to the equipment, contact the church office or a Property Team member.

