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• ISSUE 8 • VOLUME 16 • AUGUST 2009

First Christian *Chimes*

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

A Week in Mission—Caring for God’s Green Earth

ALL WEEK LONG—AUGUST 9TH-16TH SAVE THE DATES!

In August members and friends of First Christian Church of Puyallup will gather for *A Week in Mission*, a series of events rallying around a cause important to the congregation. In past years *WiM* has resulted in opportunities for learning, activism, and fundraising efforts aligned with the year’s theme. After focusing on hunger and love of neighbor, in 2009 the congregation will take a closer look at being caregivers for a beautiful gift—God’s creation.

**God saw everything that God had made,
and indeed, it was very good.**
~Gen. 1:31a



**The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in
it, the world, and those who live in it.**

~Psalm 24:1

Join FCC Puyallup for *A Week in Mission: Creation Care* from Sunday, August 9th through Sunday, August 16th. All ages are welcome all week long to participate in a variety of events looking more closely at the planet, the skies, the waters, and its inhabitants.

Bring a friend or tell a neighbor. Drop in throughout the week or come every day. Kick off your shoes and walk our green-grass prayer labyrinth; prepare and/or serve a meal for the hungry; create functional reusable tote bags or recycled glass artwork; assemble and adorn a recycling center; watch a free showing of the impactful 2006 movie *An Inconvenient Truth*; commune in nature—take communion in nature; get a bargain and raise funds for charity at the Nearly-Free Sale; count the stars in the sky; or break bread with friends. See you August 9th through 16th!

See the schedule of activities and events on page 2.

A Week in Mission: Creation Care

Continued from Page 1

**OUR BAREFOOT-FRIENDLY GRASS PRAYER LABYRINTH WILL BE OPEN ALL WEEK.
WALK, PRAY & LEARN ABOUT GOD'S CREATION & BEST PRACTICES FOR ITS GOOD CARE.**

Sunday, August 9

- 🌍 10 am-1 pm - **Worship at Clark's Creek South**; carpool leaving church at 9:45 am. Worshipping outside we'll be closer to God's green earth as we "give the land a rest." Bring a chair; some provided. Stay for a prayer walk, finger food, or just a rest.

Monday, August 10

- 🌍 3-7 pm - Drop in between 3 & 7 to create symbols of our care for God's world. All supplies provided
 - *Sew or decorate a reusable tote bag to be used at visitations & our Nearly-Free Sale
 - *A recycle program for plastic, glass & tin will be implemented & a bin enclosure built & painted
 - *Glass jars will be craftily recycled. Take 1, give 1!

Tuesday, August 11 *Creation care... for people!*

- 🌍 10 am - Visiting friends bearing gifts
- 🌍 6 pm - Small projects around the homes of friends; finishing touches on Paint Pierce Beautiful house

Wednesday, August 12

- 🌍 Carpool from church leaving at 10 am & 6 pm. Bring a bowl, harvest a miracle: blueberries to share at Lunch with a Friend & our Sunday Feast

Thursday, August 13

- 🌍 10 am - Prepare local foods for LWF & Sun. Feast
- 🌍 4 pm - Bake zucchini muffins & sweet breads
- 🌍 6 pm - All are invited to a free viewing of the must-see environmental film *An Inconvenient Truth*

Friday, August 14

- 🌍 10 am -6 pm - Nearly-Free Parking Lot Sale - 100% of sales to go to Week in Mission charities

Saturday, August 15

- 🌍 10 am - Serve, eat, pray & make friends at Lunch with a Friend (Peace Lutheran 214 E Pioneer)
- 🌍 9-10:30 pm - Candlelight labyrinth walk
- 🌍 9-10:30 pm - Creation Care Campfire - stargaze, sing, eat s'mores & thank God for darkness & light

Sunday, August 16 *Care more, car less!*

- 🌍 10 am - Bike, walk, bus or carpool to Worship
- 🌍 Join us for a Sabbath feast! (Provided)

Creation Care Tips

- 🌍 Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!
- 🌍 At church, help recycle the clean mixed paper, cardboard, glass, tin, aluminum & recyclable plastic we use. Place in appropriate bins for recycling.
- 🌍 Encourage the planting, nurture & care of trees in your community, especially near streams.
- 🌍 Tell your elected officials you want government policies that support environmental health.
- 🌍 Become educated on issues impacting your community and the world and vote accordingly.
- 🌍 On or near water: Recycle used oil & don't litter (plastic bags, broken glass & 6-pack rings can suffocate & entangle fish, birds & other creatures).
- 🌍 Reconsider cruises; cruise ships dump tons of waste into open waters where no laws prohibit it.
- 🌍 Find alternatives to pesticides & cleaning products: water, soap, white vinegar, baking soda, borax & hydrogen peroxide.
- 🌍 Practice sufficiency; buy only what you need. Seek out products with no hazardous materials & minimal packaging. Recycle materials—including computers—so they don't pollute land & water where humans & creatures live.
- 🌍 Consider downstream neighbors affected by your land use decisions. Example: lawn pesticides can end up in the water supply of fishermen downstream who depend on clean water for their livelihood.
- 🌍 Leave home with the intent to pick up litter; pick it up wherever you go. Pack it out!
- 🌍 Support our Nearly-Free Sale—all sales to go to Earth-Share WA & Earth Ministries
- 🌍 Thank God for your place on earth; give a special offering to *A Week in Mission*.
- 🌍 Walk our labyrinth - pray for God's whisper to direct your practices of creation care.
- 🌍 Give care to other humans— Lunch with a Friend 10 am—noon on Saturday, August 15th (3rd Sat. each month) - Peace Lutheran Church - 214 E Pioneer

Praise God from whom all blessings flow



"Praise awaits you, O God... You care for the land & water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain... You drench its furrows & level its ridges; you soften it with showers & bless its crops. You crown the year with your bounty, & your carts overflow with abundance. The grasslands of the desert overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness. The meadows are covered with flocks & the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy & sing."

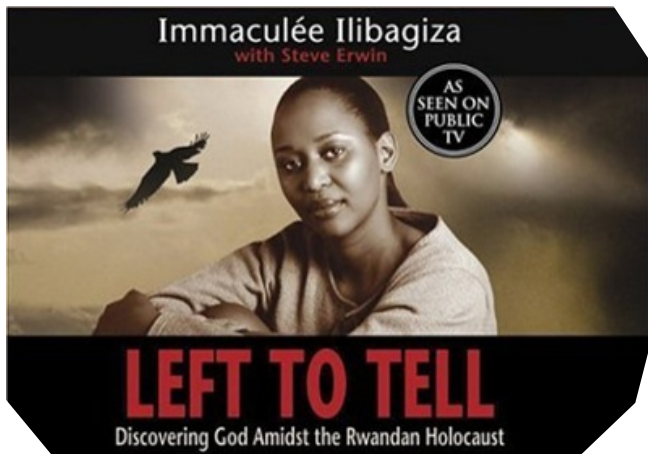
~Psalm 65:1, 9-13

August Book Club Pick

"The Rwandan genocide is one of history's most horrific events. In 1994, nearly one million Rwandans were slaughtered over the course of a few months, mainly by militant Hutu groups (tensions between the Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups were one cause of the bloodshed).

This holocaust unfolded before the eyes of a young Tutsi woman home from college over Easter break. Immaculée Ilibagiza spent 90 days hiding from killers in her pastor's 3'x4' bathroom with seven other women, hearing how her family and many of her countrymen had been slaughtered. Incredibly, she has forgiven the killers and helped Rwandan women entrepreneurs rebuild their communities. In the process, she taught people everywhere how to overcome evil with good."

~Beliefnet.com



August's book is *Left to Tell—Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculée Ilibagiza

Everyone's welcome when the Book of the Month Club meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. The gathering for *The Secret Life of Bees* is August 4th at Bonita Goatz's home.

august birthdays

- 1 Roger Stroud
- 7 Roxane Neslund
- 9 Louis Sannes
- 10 Megan Stanhope
- 10 Alorah Leale
- 11 James Lepley
- 11 Marjorie Northrop
- 11 Nancy Durrant
- 12 Robert Collins
- 14 Krista Sappington
- 14 Karrie Cheek
- 15 Cindy Dexter
- 17 Oliver Patterson
- 19 Alanna Duckett
- 22 Mike Kupfer
- 27 Sean Forslund
- 27 Kerry Yanasak
- 30 Jerry Forslund
- 30 Ashley Markum

anniversaries

- 8 Barbara & Roger Stroud
- 13 Leanne & Bill Blyth
- 15 Paula & John Sappington
- 26 June & Steve Armstrong
- 27 Debbie & David Dimond

baptism dates

- August 22, 1999..... Rosemarie Howard

Continuing the Conversation—Keeping the Sabbath

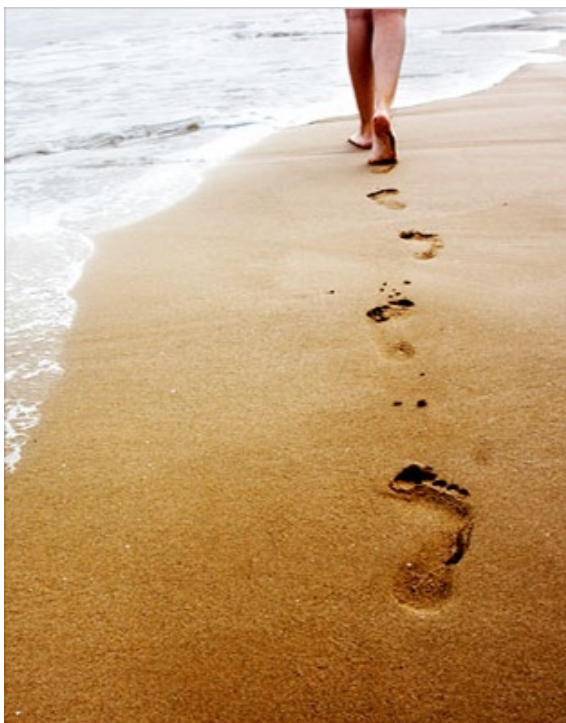
GIVING YOURSELF THE GIFT OF TIME—AND ALLOWING YOURSELF TO ACCEPT IT

Can I observe Sabbath on any day of the week?

Because of our modern 24/7 culture, many people have difficulty Sabbath-keeping on Saturday or Sunday. Job commitments may prevent individuals from joining in Sabbath worship and celebration. If you're one of those folks, choose another day of the week and create your own Sabbath time. Incorporate worship and prayer, rest and play into your day. A word of caution; remember it's important to pay attention to the communal aspect of Sabbath keeping, particularly if you are observing Sabbath on a different day of the week.

I attend worship on Sunday mornings, isn't that Sabbath keeping?

Of course! The worship of God is an integral part of the spiritual practice of Sabbath keeping. Corporate worship opens up our hearts and minds to the presence of God in our lives, not only on Sunday but throughout the week. As we spend time together each Sunday reflecting on a different aspect of Sabbath keeping, look for ways to expand your own understanding. Try something new as part of your Sabbath day. Invite your friends and neighbors to share in your Sabbath practices.



Why are we spending the whole summer on Sabbath keeping?

As a Christian community we are called by Christ to “make disciples of all nations.” Through our conversations in the PaTH (Practicing and Teaching Hope) process we have discovered the importance of our common practices or ways of being church together: *We dream of being a faithful community of God's people whose spiritual practices of worship, prayer, study and ministry nurture those who are seeking to live in the way of Jesus.* In our communal life we invite ourselves and others to come to faith and grow in Christ.

We are also called to be an alternative community to our society, constantly being shaped by the teachings of Jesus and our experiences of God. The apostle Paul writes in Romans 12, “Do not be conformed to this world, but rather be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” By taking the summer to explore the tradition of Sabbath keeping, we give ourselves time to deepen our own practices, learn from the wisdom of others, and incorporate new insights into our own lives. Remembering the Sabbath is a counter-cultural activity; it helps us step off the treadmill of work and commerce to focus our attention on God. Over time, we learn to turn away from the prevalent consumer culture and welcome Sabbath rest into our lives.

Why include recipes as part of Sabbath keeping?

The recipes are a reminder that meals shared with family and friends play an important part in the Sabbath. The Jewish Sabbath meal on Friday evening serves as an opening to Sabbath celebrations: special day, special food, family and friends gathering to celebrate together all help make Sabbath a day set apart.

The recipes in our newsletters this summer were shared by members and friends for our centennial cookbook. Try a new recipe or bring out an old favorite. Invite friends or neighbors over. Rediscover ways of enjoying Sabbath together.

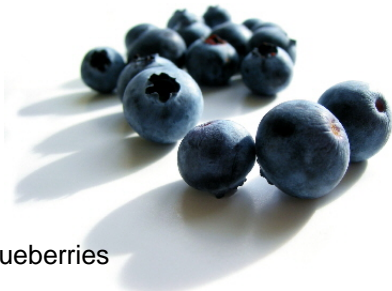
Continued on Page 5

Keeping the Sabbath *(Continued from Page 4)*

TRY ONE OF THESE SITTING-ON-THE-PORCH OR PICNICKING-WITH-FRIENDS RECIPES ON YOUR SABBATH DAY

Blueberry Buckle

1 cube butter or margarine, softened
1/2 c. sugar
1 egg
1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. nutmeg
1 tsp. baking powder
1/3 c. milk
3 c. fresh or frozen blueberries



Beat butter and sugar then add vanilla and egg. Add dry ingredients and mix well; stir in milk. Fold in berries and spread into a buttered 9' square casserole.

Topping:

1/2 cube butter or margarine
1/2 c. sugar
1/3 c. flour
1/2 tsp. cinnamon

Mix, sprinkle on top and bake at 350° for 40-45 minutes. Serves about 6. Best served warm with ice cream or whipped cream.

Eunice Squires

Oriental Cabbage Salad

Salad:

1/2 c. sliced almonds
2 T. sesame seeds
1 pkg. Top Ramen noodles, crushed
4 c. (1/2 head) cabbage, chopped
6-8 green onions, sliced
1 lg. red and green peppers, diced small

Toast almonds and sesame seeds in a 350° oven for 7 min. Combine ingredients in a bowl.

Dressing:

1 T. sugar
1/3 to 1/2 c. salad oil
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
2 T. rice vinegar
Top Ramen seasoning packet

Combine salad and dressing shortly before serving.



Norene Romjue

Recipes from FCC Puyallup's centennial cookbook *Feeding the Flock: 100 Years of Ministry & Fellowship*



the nearly free sale is back!

"We are not to throw away those things which can benefit our neighbor."

~ Clement of Alexandria c. 150 - 215 AD

Don't throw away items in your home that you no longer want or need—allow them to benefit a neighbor! Why not donate gently used household items and clean used clothing to our Nearly-Free Sale? Leave items in the classroom at the end of the hall. You'll know the room by the mountains of great reusable stuff!

Stop by on Friday, August 14th between 10 am and 6 pm. Every item will be nearly-free; all clothing is free! 100% of sales will go to A Week in Mission's chosen organizations EarthShare Washington & Earth Ministries.

Creation in the Psalms

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims
God's handiwork.

~Psalm 19:1

Let the sea roar, & all that fills it;
the world & those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD.

~Psalm 98:7-9a

'The Big Fantastic!' Fair Parking is coming!

At the recent FCC Fair Parking planning meeting, "flexibility" was a prominent keyword. The consensus of attendees was that if the congregation's annual undertaking of parking thousands of cars for the Western Washington (Puyallup) Fair was to continue to be successful, then the *flexibility* of all who participate would be a critical component of that success.

That said, if the shift schedule isn't a perfect fit for you, don't count yourself automatically out! Shift-sharing or tag-teaming is encouraged as it allows those who wish to volunteer to do so. Ask someone to be your 'team player.'

It was also agreed upon that the need for a fully staffed shift often depends on that day's attractions at the Fair. A cashier, a flagger, and one parker are *always* needed; *often* two and *sometimes* three parkers are required.

Fair Parking at First Christian Church is not only a way to raise funds for bill-paying, but an opportunity to share our God-given resources with others. A portion of every year's proceeds goes to a variety of worthy organizations. To see a list of past benefactors, visit the FCC Puyallup website's Ministries page at www.fccpuyallup.com.

As people "called by God to live as a blessing in our own neighborhoods and in the world," the Fair Parking season is an opportunity to show visitors and passers-by that we are not just another local business, but a Spirit-led people with joy and love to spare... and share.

Friends, acquaintances and well-wishers of the church are welcome to volunteer for as many shifts as they'd like—*but no more!*—sign up now in the foyer.

Setup & prep for Fair Parking will take place Wednesday, Sept. 9th starting at 9 am. Setup takes several hours and lots of hands, so all helpers are encouraged to come.

New season—new schedule!

8:00 am to 11:30 am

11:30 am to 2:30 pm

2:30 pm to 5:30 pm

5:30 pm to Close*

*Depends on need; typically 8-8:15, no later than 9 pm



Painting Puyallup Beautiful

FCC'S PAINT CREW MAKES HOMEOWNER HAPPY

"In 1985, some City of Tacoma employees were looking for a morale-boosting project for the summer when they found a low-income senior whose home desperately needed paint. They asked the Exchange Club of Tacoma if they would buy the paint, and the club agreed on one condition: they wanted to paint too, not just put money toward the effort. They had such a good time doing it that they painted two homes the next summer; by the fourth year, enough people joined them to boost the number to 14 homes.

...The program [is in its 23rd] year. Homes belonging to low-income senior and disabled home-owners receive both minor repairs and fresh coats of paint. All the work is done by volunteer paint crews. Eighty-two homes were painted by more than 1,500 volunteers in the summer of 2008. The total number of homes painted since 1985 is 1,654."

www.paintbeautiful.org (About PTPB)

This summer several volunteers from First Christian banded together to pressure wash, scrape, caulk, prime and paint the home of Puyallup homeowner; three truckloads of debris were removed from her driveway and taken to the landfill.

At print, one coat of paint is on and one or two more work sessions are needed. One will take place as part of *A Week in Mission* on Tuesday, August 11th, when WiM will focus on caring for one another as God's creations, humans. To help, contact Connie Robey or the church office.



DAY ONE



DAY FIVE



Giving Totals:

June 28

General Fund	\$	1815.00
Week of Compassion	\$	<u>3.00</u>
	\$	1818.00

July 5

General Fund	\$	<u>1199.00</u>
	\$	1199.00

July 12

General Fund	\$	2330.00
Week of Compassion	\$	23.00
Cans for Camp	\$	<u>7.50</u>
	\$	2360.50

July 19

General Fund	\$	795.00
Week of Compassion	\$	<u>3.00</u>
	\$	798.00

July 26

General Fund	\$	<u>1590.00</u>
	\$	1590.00

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Puyallup WA 98371
Permit #28

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

life of the church

Gathering TimeSundays - 10 am
Service of Worship Sundays - 10:30 am
Women's Study (BRB) Wednesdays - 10 am
Crafters Group (Lunch Bunch) Thursdays - 10 am

A Week in Mission: Creation Care—Aug. 9-16

All are welcome all week—bring a friend!

SEE PAGE 2 FOR A MORE DETAILED SCHEDULE

Creation Care Prayer Labyrinth.....Aug. 9-16

4 Book Club (at Bonita Goatz's) - 7 pm
**9 Creation Care Worship - 10:30
(Clarks Creek Park So. - Carpool at 9:45 am)**
13 Movie Night: *An Inconvenient Truth* - 6 pm
14 Nearly-Free Sale - 10 am to 6 pm
16 Care more—Car Less
(Carpool, bike, walk, public transportation to church)
18 Lunch with a Friend - Peace Lutheran - 10 am
25 Diaconate Meeting - 7 pm
30 Board & Leadership Training



2009 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Wednesday, July 29 - Sunday, August 2
• Indianapolis, Ind.

... for the
HEALING of the **NATIONS**

Please keep in prayer
the Christian Church
and Assembly attendees,
including Pastor Nancy,
as they make decisions
and work together...

...for the Healing of the Nations. (Rev. 22:1-5)