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• ISSUE 9 • VOLUME 18 • SEPTEMBER 2011

# First Christian *Chimes*

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

## “Make Your Escape” ...to the FCC Parking Lot!

SEPTEMBER 6TH & 7TH, THEN 9TH THROUGH 25TH ALL HANDS ARE NEEDED!



### YOUR HELP IS NEEDED:

**Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> - 9 am**

- *Mowing & trimming*

**Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> - 9 am**

- *Striping the grass for parking spaces*
- *Hanging flags & putting up signs*
- *Cleaning & stocking parking shed & refrigerator*
- *Preparing lunch for volunteers*

And then... “continued adventures!” Continued on Page 2

Each year as summer winds down, a great deal of behind-the-scenes preparation goes into the 17-day stretch known as “Fair Parking” at First Christian Church of Puyallup. Dozens of volunteers and around 4,300 cumulative hours make up the planning and completion of FCC’s annual endeavor. This year, when over a million Fair-goers “make their escape” to the Western Washington Fair half a block away, several thousand of them will seek a coveted parking space on FCC grounds, and First Christian volunteers will rally to provide a convenient, safe, happy place to kick off their Fair-going experience.

It’s widely known that income generated from Fair Parking is important to the day-to-day workings and vast ministry set at FCC, but what’s sometimes left unsaid is that Fair Parking is also FUN! So check your calendar and put on your smile—will you sign up to take on a few shifts, have some fun, make friends and be an expression of God’s presence in Puyallup?



Don & Bob stripe parking spaces in 2008

# Ministry Team Summit

CONVERSATION, COORDINATION, AND NEXT STEPS ARE FOCUS OF SEPTEMBER GATHERING

Church council members, ministry team leaders and participants will come together on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30-8:30, for a potluck and a World Café-style approach to cooperation and planning.

In keeping with our PaTH Ministry Plan, the Church Council is bringing together folks involved in all of our areas of ministry for a Fall planning summit. We'll celebrate what's worked over the past year, consider how we might learn from our recent experiences, and begin setting priorities for the coming year.

So much has been accomplished in the last year! Some of it is easy to see; other parts of our ministry is found in the stories of lives changed and people helped. This is an opportunity for us to take what we've learned and keep living into our vision for our congregation.

If you're a leader or participant in a ministry team, you're invited to be a part of the Ministry Team Summit. Look for more information soon.

## Current FCC Ministry Teams: Mission, Stewardship and Disciple Formation

Mission	Stewardship	Disciple Formation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach</li> <li>• Diaconate/Hospitality</li> <li>• Specific Outreach Teams</li> <li>• Fair Parking</li> <li>• Homeless Ministries</li> <li>• Lunch with a Friend</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration</li> <li>• Employee Relations</li> <li>• Trustees</li> <li>• Financial Recording Secretary</li> <li>• Financial Stewardship</li> <li>• Growing financial support</li> <li>• Property Stewardship</li> <li>• Upkeep of property</li> <li>• Planning for ministry uses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worship</li> <li>• Faith Formation</li> <li>• Education Ministries</li> <li>• Small Groups</li> <li>• Elders</li> </ul>

taken from the Puyallup FCC Ministry Plan

*Fair Parking Help Needed, Continued from Page 1*

## THE ADVENTURES OF FCC PUYALLUP! SIGN UP NOW FOR YOUR FAVORITE PARKING SHIFT! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED SEPT. 9TH-25TH

COME ON DOWN!  
FCC  
PUYALLUP  
FAIR  
PARKING  
IS FUN!

Mild-mannered-by-day, Ray dons an orange "cape" and works the 5:30 pm shift

**AVAILABLE TIME-WARPS:**

- 8:00 AM - 11:30 AM,
- 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM,
- 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM,
- 5:30 PM - CLOSE (TYPICALLY 8-8:15 PM, NO LATER THAN 9 PM)

**SHIFTS DON'T FIT YOU? TELL US! SCHEDULE-MORPHING IS POSSIBLE!**

**SUPER-POWERS NEEDED:**

- FLAGGER (1 PER SHIFT),
- CASHIER (1 PER SHIFT),
- PARKER (2-5 PER SHIFT, DEPENDING ON VOLUME).

**ZOWIE!**

FAIR LOVER?  
FAIR EMPLOYEE?  
RESERVE A PARKING  
SPOT FOR ALL 17 DAYS!  
\$100 IS A 41% SAVINGS!  
CALL THE CHURCH  
TO GET YOURS TODAY!  
253-845-6232

# Diaconate Announce Launch of 3x3 Groups

## INFORMAL SMALL GROUPS BEGIN IN OCTOBER

Three-by-Three Groups offer the opportunity to get to know others in our congregation in a casual setting, outside of more structured church experiences. The 3x3 groups have three guidelines:

- 3 households (singles, couples, and/or families)
- 3 months (commit to meet together once a month)
- 3 activities (each month one household takes a turn, and chooses one activity to plan for their month)

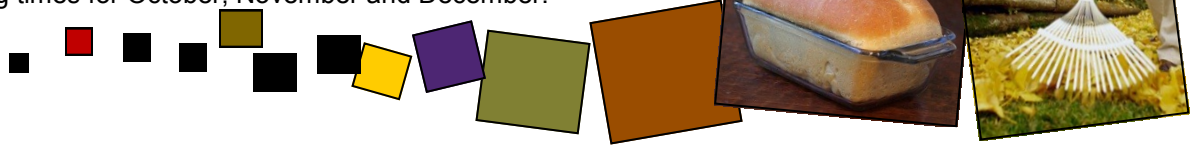
That's it!

Once you sign up to join a 3x3 group, you'll be paired with two other households. Each household selects one month to plan their group's 3x3 activity.

Monthly gatherings may be a dinner shared at home, a meal at a restaurant, bowling, Christmas caroling, a service project, miniature golf outing, or any activity the group might enjoy doing together.

Sign up for the Fall 3x3 groups by contacting the church office or signing the 3x3 Group interest sheet at the welcome table by the front door. For more information call the church office or speak with Kelli Kays.

The deadline for signing up is Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Groups will select their own monthly meeting times for October, November and December.



### september birthdays

3 .....	Marge Sperring
8 .....	Florence Burr
9 .....	Leslie Dickson
10 .....	Jackson Rice
16 .....	Robert Dickson
18 .....	Keeler Duckett
18 .....	David Patterson
21 .....	Ray Smith
24 .....	Amy Hart
24 .....	Kyle Markum
25 .....	Michael Sperring

### anniversaries

- |          |                        |
|----------|------------------------|
| 15 ..... | Mary & Karl Raup       |
| 18 ..... | Jeanne & Bob Crabb     |
| 19 ..... | Karen & Jesse Stumpf   |
| 25 ..... | Gladys & Richard Legas |

### baptism dates

- |                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Sept. 13, 1964 ..... | Ken Forslund |
| Sept. 20, 1959 ..... | Pat Todd     |

Mark your calendar!  
 October 2nd:  
 Sunday School - 9:45 am  
 Fall Worship schedule - 11 am  
 Pierce County Hunger Walk  
 (Get team together,  
 register to walk,  
 sponsor FCC walkers)

October



s	m	t	w	th	f	s
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**Save the Date!**



**an** ASSOCIATED  
 MINISTRIES  
 PIERCE COUNTY

**HUNGER  
 WALK**

Join us for the 31st Annual  
 Associated Ministries Hunger Walk  
**Sunday, October 2, 2011**  
 Fort Steilacoom Park  
 9601 Steilacoom Blvd., Lakewood

12-1:30 p.m. Registration  
 1:30 p.m. Run starts  
 2:00 p.m. Walk starts



Register for the Hunger Walk at  
[www.associatedministries.org](http://www.associatedministries.org)

# 2011 Turner Lectures Welcomes John D. Caputo

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE TURNER LECTURES!



John D. Caputo describes himself as a hybrid philosopher/theologian, bringing philosophical questions to bear on religion and theology while letting theology and religion push back. This approach forces philosophers to think about the strange and haunting narratives in Scripture. He is a distinguished writer and scholar and has held endowed chairs in both philosophy and religion before his recent retirement.

Caputo enjoys presenting the arcane ideas of the academy to wider audiences. This includes frequent interaction with the “Emergent Church,” which he values as a loosely organized cluster of front-line groups where abstract ideas hit the ground. The result of crossing all these wires—between philosophy and theology, between the academy and the pews—gets us closer to what is really going on in religion and theology, closer to what is “happening” there. Doing that, getting at what’s happening in something, Caputo claims, is what the “deconstruction” of something is. So contrary to popular impressions, deconstruction does not raze a structure (like religion, art, or the university) to the ground, but releases its inner energies, lets it breathe, and allows it to reinvent itself.

## What Would Jesus DEconstruct? Postmodernism Meets the Church

October 10-12, 2011  
Englewood Christian Church  
Yakima, Washington

### Workshop Opportunities

A variety of workshops will be offered Tuesday afternoon. Titles will include the following as well as others:

- Regional Conversation: A Word from Sandy - Sandy Messick
- Justice and the Land - David Bell
- Photography as Theological Reflection - Roger Lynn
- Prayer without Words - Laurie Rudell

For schedules, pricing, registration, lodging information and more, please visit [www.disciplesnw.org/whatshappening/turnerlectures.html](http://www.disciplesnw.org/whatshappening/turnerlectures.html)

## FCC Men Take on Caputo’s Book

### WHAT WOULD JESUS DECONSTRUCT?

The ever-adventurous men of First Christian have taken on some ambitious and provocative study materials in their first 20 months, and this month they do not disappoint as they discuss together Turner Lectures’ keynote speaker John D. Caputo’s *What Would Jesus Deconstruct?*

All men are invited to join the group which has a variety of participants from different walks of life. Caputo’s book may be purchased through the FCC website’s Amazon page.

During the Fair, September 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, the men will meet at Sumner Christian Church (432 Wood Ave., Sumner 98390).

Perhaps nothing is more deserving of deconstruction than the Church, in the dual sense of “deserve”: as in the sense of meriting it, of being worthy of and important enough to be deconstructed, and also of getting its just deserts, meaning to get its ears pinned back for its infidelities. If so, what better way to bring deconstruction to bear upon the Church than to ask, what would Jesus deconstruct? What would Jesus have to say if one Sunday morning he suddenly appeared seated in the congregation? That is the question Caputo will pursue in this year’s lecture series. That famous experiment, undertaken in Dostoevsky’s *Grand Inquisitor* and later in Charles Sheldon’s classic, *In His Steps: What Would Jesus Do?*, is repeated by Caputo using the philosopher Jacques Derrida.

Asking the question “What Would Jesus Deconstruct?” Caputo carefully unpacks the “what,” the “would,” the “Jesus,” and the “deconstruct” in his question, to uncover what is really happening in the Church—or what should be!—namely, the Kingdom of God. This he defines as the unruly rule that results if we release what’s going on in the name of God—if we let it happen—if the name of God becomes the name of a deed, not a doctrine.

# Volunteers Can Make or Break a Program

IN THE CASE OF *THE HANGOUT*—IT'S "MAKE IT"—A SUCCESS!

As the second season of *The Hangout* comes to an end, we look back and realize how much our summer program has developed. Started in 2010 as a drop-in center where homeless adults in our community could rest, get a snack and visit, the ministry has become much more.

Together with our partners and volunteers we've accomplished a lot this summer! We've provided assistance getting and setting up free cell phones and service. We've worked on résumés and interviews and provided transportation. We've watched guests who were once withdrawn and quiet become more outgoing and appreciative. Many guests help with set-up, cooking, and clean-up. Some have gotten jobs this summer. How exciting it was to see one of our friends reunited with his estranged sister and family after many years!

We have built friendships with many new people—guests as well as resource persons such as the PATH [program at Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare] ladies who have helped several guests get housing, and also have been contact persons and helped provide needs while a few guests have been in the hospital.

As we touch hearts and give hope the ministry also reaches out into our community. The Nazarene Church provided showers on scheduled Fridays. A local hairstylist offered professional haircuts and shaves. Community of Christ Church's Amity Ministry has opened their doors on our weekdays off.

We thank all who volunteered—at The Hangout and behind the scenes—we are so appreciative of all those who provided transportation, donated food and soda, and prepared meals or part of a meal, and more, this season.

It has been a good summer. Thank you!

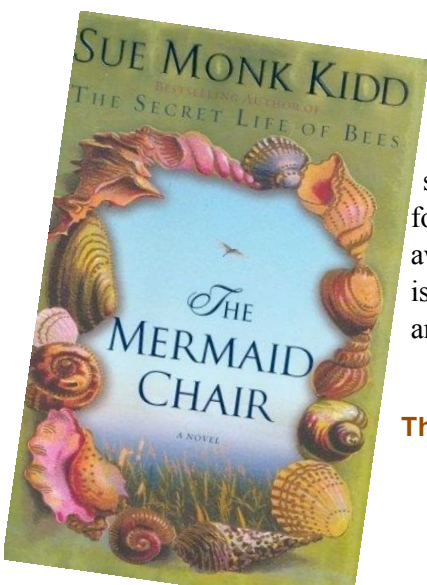
*Terry Forslund & Bonnie Goddard, First Christian Church Homeless Ministries Coordinators*

A guest and helper BBQs lunch for *The Hangout*



## ***The Mermaid Chair*—FCC Book Club's Next Read**

**SUE MONK KIDD'S SECOND NOVEL TO BE READ IN SEPTEMBER**



“The novel has humor and a profound feeling for its primeval landscape of mudflats and salt creeks. And it's full of the kind of eccentric characters that throng any small fictional community worth its salt. *The Mermaid Chair* becomes symbolic of Jessie's dive to the bottom of inner tide-pools-- resurfacing with new-found libido, creativity and self-possession... At the heart of this story is Jessie's awakening and her unraveling of her father's mysterious death, the cause of which is movingly revealed. It's the sensitively plotted emotional journey that makes this another inevitable bestseller.”

*--Time Out London (England)*

**The Book Club meets the first Tuesday each month for discussion of the book. All are welcome to join the group on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Bill & Connie Robey's house (15210 - 106th St. E, Puyallup 98374) to discuss *Change of Heart* by Jodi Picoult**

fcc giving

**July 31**

General Fund\* ..... \$1005.00  
 Adopt-a-Child 4 School..... \$ 140.00

**August 7**

General Fund\* ..... \$ 863.00  
 Adopt-a-Child 4 School..... \$ 30.00  
 FCC Windows Project ..... \$ 45.00

**August 14**

General Fund\* ..... \$1887.00

**August 21**

General Fund\* ..... \$1541.71  
 General Fund Grant..... \$ 500.00

**August 28**

General Fund\* ..... \$ 861.64  
 The Hangout..... \$ 100.00

\*To meet 2011's budgeted General Offering income, weekly General Fund giving must average \$1346.15.

# Generous People!

FCC & FRIENDS SEND KIDS TO SCHOOL IN STYLE



Thanks to the kindness of FCC Puyallup and some very good friends, 20 very full backpacks were donated to 18 local homeless and 2 neighborhood kids, and \$370 worth of school supplies were given to Helping Hand House homeless shelter to give out as they see a need. The items and their recipients were prayed for in Worship, and then were gratefully received by HHH. THANKS to all who are making the dreams of children in our community come true!

## Radical Gratitude: Extreme Generosity

THANKING GOD FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE GOOD STEWARDS

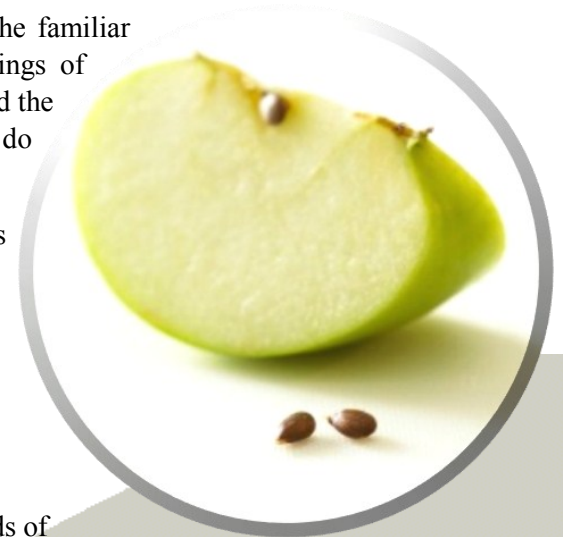
If you've ever been to summer of church camp, you've probably sung the familiar before-meal grace the "Johnny Appleseed Song." This catchy song sings of gratitude to God "for giving me the things I need: the sun, and the rain, and the apple seed." To acknowledge and thank God is a beautifully odd thing to do in a culture that constantly tells us we deserve it all.

But, this song goes beyond just thanking God for the fact that "the Lord's been good to me." Here's verse #2 (hum along if you like!):

*Oh, and every seed I sow  
 Will grow into a tree.  
 And someday there'll be apples there  
 For everyone in the world to share.  
 Oh, the Lord is good to us.*

What a beautifully inclusive feast this verse portrays! And we, the stewards of the gift of the "apple seed" play a vital and exciting role in helping this feast come about...

—Tanya Barnett & Tom Wilson  
 Northwest United Methodist Foundation Staff



**What "seeds" are you sowing through your participation in ministries or giving?**

*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

## life of the church in september

Summer Worship ..... Sundays - 10 am	17..... Lunch with a Friend - 10 am
1 ..... Council reports due	19..... Budget Planning Meeting - 1 pm
5 ..... Labor Day	22..... So & Sew Study & Ministry - 10 am
6 ..... <b>Help needed</b> - Fair Parking prep mow/trim - 9 am	22..... Men's Study at Sumner FCC - 7 pm
6 ..... Book Club Gathering (the Robeys' home) - 7 pm	27..... Puyallup Community Band Rehearsal
7 ..... <b>Help needed</b> - Fair Parking prep/setup - 9 am	29..... So & Sew Study & Ministry - 10 am
8 ..... So & Sew Study & Ministry - 10 am	29..... Ministry Teams Summit - 6:30 pm
8 ..... Council Meeting - 6:30 pm	
9 - 25 ..... Puyallup Fair Parking - 8:30 am-8:30 pm	<b>COMING IN OCTOBER:</b>
12 ..... Axis of Friendship (light a candle) - 7 pm	2..... Sunday School resumes ..... 9:45 am
15 ..... Men's Study at Sumner FCC - 7 pm	2..... Fall Worship Time Change ..... 11 am

## On 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11—Pray for Peace

On September 12, 2001, just hours after the tragic attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>, millions around the world shared their sorrow with people in the United States. The world's sympathy came from many places. Throughout Europe, churches rang their bells and held a minute of silence at noon. Despite U.S. perceptions of enmity with Iran, thousands of people lit candles and stood in silence in the streets of Tehran in solidarity with the people of the United States. This spontaneous goodwill is a transformative power for interfaith and cross-cultural understanding throughout the world—an Axis of Friendship.

“We invite all who desire to be part of the Axis of Friendship to remember Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, every year. Light a candle at sundown and place it in a prominent window overnight to bear witness to the light of peace and to kindle the goodwill that connects us to each other across all lines of difference and division.” --Axis of Friendship

