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First Christian Church of Puyallup (Disciples of Christ)
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life of the church

August's MissionNonperishable Food Items
 Summer Worship..... Sundays - 10 am
 2.....PaTH Vision Panel - 6:30 pm
 7.....Program Council Meeting - 7 pm
 12-19 Week in Mission: *Fighting Hunger*
 16.....PaTH Vision Panel - 6:30 pm
 18.....Lunch with a Friend - 10 am
 21.....Elders Meeting - 6:30 pm
 Sept./Oct. MissionNoah's Ark /
 Barnyard of Animals

Gwinwood Camps dates:

Junior Camp (4th-6th)August 20-25
 CYF Camp (10th-12th; grads).....August 13-18

ready-set-park! SEPTEMBER 7-23

Making use of the church property for Puyallup Fair parking has evolved into a mainstay and a way of life for FCC Puyallup, and we are blessed with the facility, location and space to do it well and make all the effort worth our while. "Parking best practices" have been tested for four decades, and for 17 days each year the program runs like a fine Swiss watch.

The first 10% of Fair Parking earnings is given to local, national and global missions; the next 10% is set aside for capital improvements; and the rest is kept in reserve to balance the annual budget. The income is truly a gift from God.

BUT - *none* of it can happen without YOUR help! The one snag is that there is often a shortage of volunteers which means some dedicated-but-tired folks work more than their share, so - *we need you!* There are now *five* shifts and several positions to choose from - and if you work and can't make it on time, consider a split shift with someone. Sign up for your favorite shift and position now!

august birthdays

1 Roger Stroud
 7 Roxane Neslund
 9 Dorothy Phillips
 9 Louis Sannes
 10 Alorah Leale
 10 Ruth Lepley
 10 Megan Stanhope
 11 James Lepley
 11 Marjorie Northrop

& anniversaries

8..... Barbara & Roger Stroud
 18..... Alice & Lloyd Miller
 26..... June & Steve Armstrong
 27..... Debbie & David Dimond

For updates to these events and much more, visit our website at www.FCCPuyallup.com

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No summer off. August's mission emphasis is *Food Bank Items*3

Some words from our interim pastor, *Rod Smith*..... 3

A Week in Mission: Fighting Hunger looking at the world through the eyes of the hungry1, 2

First Christian *Chimes*

A WELCOMING, COMPASSIONATE, SPIRIT-LED PEOPLE OF FAITH SHARING THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

**a week in mission: focusing on hunger
AUGUST 12-19**

At times we all have difficulty decoding the Bible and its many metaphors and symbolisms. There aren't many of us who would claim to "know it all." But there is little doubt about the admonishments of Jesus and his lived-out lessons of compassion and service for those he called "the least of these."

Young and old are welcome to take part in this special weeklong affair. Come to one event or come to all! Tell a friend! Join us as we spend a week fighting hunger in big and small ways. *See Page 2 for a schedule of events.*

when I was hungry...

For an entire week in August, members and friends of our congregation will have a variety of opportunities to learn more about and to put into practice what Jesus taught. Our *Week in Mission* will focus on educating and taking action against hunger in our local community and the world beyond. The week will be full of intergenerational activities and projects that focus on fighting hunger.

... you gave me food.

Through worship, education, action, service and prayer, we will join together to do our part to feed those whose bowls are empty. Events will include a hunger labyrinth, home cooking (bread baking), living off the land (berry picking), prayer walks, bowl making, sharing stories over food, serving the hungry, letter writing, an "empty bowl meal," and much more.

“ THREE OUNCES OF RICE. THE AVERAGE PERSON LIVING IN CHRONIC HUNGER RECEIVES ONLY THIS AMOUNT OF FOOD... DAILY. ”



©Kris Litman give us this day... (used with permission) www.flickr.com/photos/krislitman/493626935/

O *God, to those who have hunger give bread, and to those who have bread give a hunger for justice.*

~Latin American prayer

visit us at www.FCCPuyallup.com

join us for a week in mission - AUGUST 12 - 19

fighting hunger armed with education & action

Look for updates and schedule confirmation in Sunday bulletins & website calendar

Sunday, August 12

- 10 am - We'll launch the Week in Mission in Worship
- An outdoor labyrinth will be open all week long - come walk and pray for those who hunger - and for opportunities to do something about it.

Monday, August 13

- 3-7 pm - Papier mâché bowls; all supplies provided. Drop in and create a bowl to symbolize our concern for those who don't have enough to fill their own. Bowls will be used at hunger events all week long.

Tuesday, August 14 (time to be determined)

- Bake bread for the Board Meeting communion (8/14 at 7 pm); Lunch with a Friend (8/18); Sunday worship communion (8/19); take home extra bread.

Wednesday, August 15

- AM Prayer Walk (10 am) - meet at FCC Puyallup
- 3 - 7 pm: Paint the bowls we made on Monday!
- PM Prayer Walk (7 pm) - meet at FCC Puyallup

Thursday, August 16

- AM Blueberry Picking (10 am) at Squires Farm
- PM Blueberry Picking (6 pm) at Squires Farm
- Berries will be used for Lunch with a Friend and the Sunday Empty Bowl Meal; take home extra berries.

Friday, August 17 (time to be determined)

- Help prepare dishes for Lunch with a Friend and dessert for the Sunday "Empty Bowls Meal."

Saturday, August 18

- 10 am - Join us to serve a home cooked meal to the hungry at Lunch with a Friend (Peace Lutheran at 214 East Pioneer). We'll sit, chat, eat and pray with guests - we'll need some folks to just sit and chat!

Sunday, August 19

- Share communion in Worship with homemade bread
- **Empty Bowls Meal** - following Worship - Reserve a meal now: \$10/meal, \$25/family buys lunch and a handmade bowl. Proceeds will go to F.I.S.H. Food Bank and Bread for the World (www.bread.org).

Faith in Action Ideas:

- Invite someone with whom you would normally be unlikely to connect to share a meal with you.
- Realizing how much we have, vow to give up for the week something you take for granted (coffee, fast food, lattes, dinner out) and donate any money saved to a hunger organization.
- Take a small step in your community. Visit Lunch With a Friend, our outreach service to the hungry on August 18th (10 am at Peace Lutheran - 214 East Pioneer). Get to know the people you meet there.
- Bread for the World is a Christian citizens' movement seeking justice for the world's hungry by lobbying decision makers. Get a handout in the foyer or visit www.bread.org to read about pending legislation and write a letter.
- Know someone who works with the hungry in some way? Send a note of appreciation this week.
- If Americans reduced their meat consumption by only 10% for a year, it would free 12 million tons of grain for human consumption.
- Support the growers and harvesters: switch to fair trade coffee and tea. For information, visit Equal Exchange at www.equalexchange.com.

"if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday"
-Isaiah 58:10



the thing about hunger: august's mission

Since Fall 2004 our "monthly missions" have become second nature to the FCC Puyallup community, and our capacity to respond to the many needs in our world has blossomed. The Outreach Team works hard to design a variety of opportunities for us to make a difference, and yet, because hunger is an issue that doesn't go away, this month we'll try to replicate our second ever monthly mission, when we collected more than 285 **nonperishable food items for a local food bank.**

Since that November almost three years ago we've supported Pierce County Hunger Walks in October, canvassed the neighborhood for canned food during November, and provided holiday food baskets for families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. But... hunger doesn't take the summer off.

Monthly mission - Nov. '04



THE THING ABOUT HUNGER: NO SUMMER VACATION
Get the facts and help fight hunger this summer!

- Each month in Pierce County more than 140,000 persons seek help finding food (42% are children under 19 and 10% are seniors over 65).
- 43% are families with *at least* one working adult.
- 98% fall below the national poverty line.
- Washington has had one of the top five highest hunger rates in the country for the past 10 years.
- The number of people seeking food assistance in Pierce County in 2004 rose 26% over 2003. (Lakewood +39%, Tacoma +28%, other +19%)
- In 2005, 780,569 persons received 8,353,966 meals at Pierce County food banks. Another 923,410 sit-down meals were provided by local hot meal sites.

Source: www.efoodnet.org

from our interim pastor

Can you believe we're halfway through summer? I must be having too much fun. Two months of Pastor Nancy's sabbatical is complete and she is now vacationing with her family. Take a look at the pictures in the album in the foyer; Nancy has kept us up to date on her adventures.

I really enjoy planning Worship with Tasha Parker and Robin Crabb, plus the participation of other members in the various elements of the services. Worship is a communal experience and having different persons share leadership gives it that larger sense that we're doing this together. This is a good thing; if you haven't taken a turn and want to, please let someone know you'd like to serve.

Compliments to those who planned and led the recent Vision Retreat. For me the event promoted a deeper sense of community and sharing as we considered the nature of God's call to the church and how this congregation has participated in seeking to express and be God's love and justice in this community. You are well on the Path to seeking God's vision for you in this time and place.

Coming up, don't overlook *Week of Mission*. There are learning and serving opportunities planned for every age.

Try one of our Sundays! Blessings, Rod

PaTH vision retreat

WARNING: SPIRIT AT WORK!

Once the work of study and preparation for the Vision Retreat was complete, the Path Teams could only pray that participation and involvement from the rest of the congregation would be good. *It was.* 33 friends of FCC Puyallup joined to discern a vision - shared with God and driven by the Spirit - for our congregation in the world.

Over the course of five hours of worshipful work - including intentional prayer, community building, small group conversations, a town meeting forum, agape and communion meals symbolizing joyful servanthood, and hymns of transformation and vision - the FCC Puyallup community made great strides in the journey they've committed to.

The input gathered from all who attended will be used by the PaTH Vision Team, partnered with the Holy Spirit, to craft a Guiding Vision for our congregation. Listen for more information as that process unfolds.

Thanks to the many hands that worked together to make the Vision Retreat a great success!