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# First Christian *Chimes*

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

## Together we can!

Everyone feels the financial crunch of rising fuel and food costs. As you work with your personal budget, please remember the ministry of our congregation. Our church board and ministry leaders have worked hard to keep expenses within our budget. We continue to need everyone's support as we faithfully live out God's calling.

Let's look at our church budget: \$17 will fund one hour of our yearly budget; \$409 for a day; \$2,860 for a week. Currently, just over 50% of our budget is supported through individual giving. The remainder is covered by the income we receive from our Fair parking (after 10% is given to support missions and 10% is set aside for capital expenditures) and our savings.

As one of our former elders is beloved for saying, "Dig deep, don't weep; it was never yours to keep." If everyone participates, we have the financial resources we need to do our current ministry and much, much more.

Take a look at these numbers. If every member of our congregation (203) gave \$14/week, we would be able to meet our current yearly budget.

Not all of our members participate regularly, so consider this: If every person who is a member of one of our five caring groups gave \$30/week, we would exceed our annual budget.

Still too optimistic? If the average number of people worshiping with us on Sundays gave \$44/week, we would still be able to meet our ministry budget. Seems

like a lot? Thinking in terms of the traditional tithe/giving amount (10% of one's income), \$44 per week works out to be 10% of an annual income of around \$23,000.

The exciting part of these numbers is that if we were able to meet our budget with individual giving, we could use all of our added income from Fair parking to support even more ministries in our own backyard and around the world. What a powerful witness it would be to tell each person who parks here, "Yes, we give all of our parking income to help end hunger!" A dream? Perhaps, but it is one we can reach together.

Many of you generously support FCC ministries, and your participation is vital to our work together. We recognize that each person's ability to give varies according to their income, life situation, and other variables. Many give to other worthy causes and ministries. Please prayerfully reflect upon your regular giving. Could you give to fund an extra hour per week? An entire day each month?

Our ministry is at its best when everyone participates fully.

***If every member  
of our congregation gave  
\$14 per week (to support  
the ministry of FCC)  
we would meet  
our current  
yearly budget***

# Week in Mission: *Love in Action*

2008 WEEK IN MISSION TO FOCUS ON LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS—COMING IN AUGUST!

*How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.*

1 John 3:17-18, NRSV

In 2007, a small team formed to reconsider the traditional model of Vacation Bible School. The team reflected, instead of *recruiting* adults, how could adults *benefit*, along with the children, from the resultant learning, fun, and relational dynamics of VBS? How could a weeklong summer event be transformed into a time of mutual experiences, shared wisdom, and expression of creativity? How could the biblical and congregational values of worship, prayer, servanthood, giving, and reaching out to neighbors be blended into an event shared by every type of individual in every age group? Out of their Spirited discussion and brainstorming, Week in Mission was born.



For one week in August 2007, dozens of FCC Puyallup members, friends, and neighbors young and old joined to fight hunger. Through education, prayer, service, worship, the preparation and sharing of meals, and the creation of meaningful art there was a deep sense of the Spirit at work and a shared awareness of living out the call to be God's church in the world. Generous contributions of time, food, and money were made to Lunch with a Friend, Bread for the World, and FISH Food Bank. The team could not wait to get started planning another event for 2008.

## Join us in August as we gather for Week in Mission: *Love in Action*.

"In truth and action" the FCC congregation will learn together how to "love our neighbors as ourselves" and seek opportunities to touch many lives in many ways. Look for more information as the second Week in Mission nears.

*Clockwise: Mary Beth and Brandon painted papier mache bowls for the Empty Bowls meal; A mown labyrinth beckoned friends and neighbors; A downtown prayer walk united prayer partners outside All Saints Catholic Church.*

## birthdays

- 1 ..... Joy Clark
- 2 ..... Benjamin Johnson
- 3 ..... Kayla Stanhope
- 5 ..... Kenneth Romjue
- 6 ..... Greg Johnson
- 11 ..... Allysha Clark
- 12 ..... Nancy Freeman
- 13 ..... Ken Maas
- 17 ..... Betty Caley
- 23 ..... Peggy Miles
- 25 ..... Linda Fisher
- 25 ..... Brandon Kosakoski

- 26 ..... Sharon Yanasak
- 29 ..... Louise English
- 30 ..... Dorothea Smith
- 31 ..... Kristofor Goatz

## anniversaries

- 1 ..... Darelee & Harold Phillips
- 8 ..... Eunice & Sherman Squires
- 8 ..... Sharon & Kerry Yanasak
- 9 ..... Nancy & Greg Johnson
- 26 ..... Ginny & Fred Docker

# Another turn on the PaTH

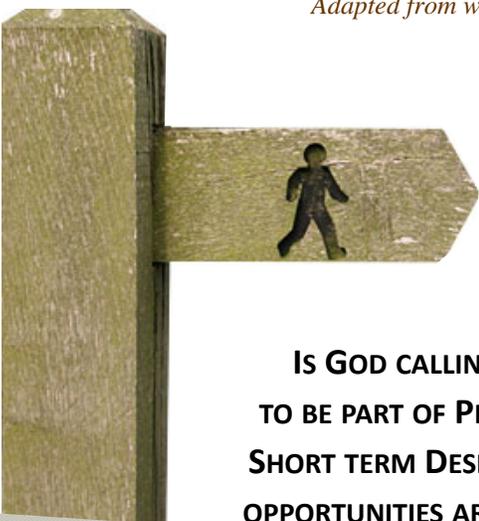
## STEPPING INTO PHASE IV: *DESIGNING CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WITNESS*

*THANKS to all who helped to make the design of our new Missional Strategy document a success— look for copies of the final document soon!*

The Journey of Discovery [called PaTH, or *Practicing and Teaching Hope at FCC Puyallup*] is an ongoing continuous process; a journey necessary for all congregations, not a program done by a few congregations. In the NW Region, JoD involves moving through five phases of transformation. Each phase leads to a different and deeper level of change. Each phase builds upon the one that preceded it. The first two phases help build readiness throughout the congregation for major and profound change. The final three phases involve discerning God’s vision for the congregation; planning for the changes necessary to respond to that call; and implementing those changes in such a way that the congregation learns a whole new way of “being church.”

During Phase IV the congregation becomes more exacting in the transformation process as a new focus for its future unfolds. Four Design Teams will develop action plans simultaneously and, with the PaTH Coordinating Team, will formulate those action plans into a comprehensive or strategic plan. That plan will describe the actions that the congregation will take as it moves into the future. Phase IV is expected to take about 6-8 months.

*Adapted from [www.disciplesnw.org](http://www.disciplesnw.org)*



**IS GOD CALLING YOU  
TO BE PART OF PHASE IV?  
SHORT TERM DESIGN TEAM  
OPPORTUNITIES ARE OPEN—  
SEE A PATH TEAM MEMBER  
TO SEE WHERE YOU FIT IN.**

- Phase I - Getting Ready for the Journey
- Phase II - Developing a Common View of Reality
- Phase III - Discerning God’s Call
- Phase IV - Designing Congregational Life & Witness
- Phase V - Living into a Faithful Future

### AREAS OF MINISTRY TO BE DESIGNED IN PHASE IV:

Designing **COMMON LIFE** has to do with shaping the relational dynamics of the congregation. Special focus is upon the power dynamics of the congregation, the organizational climate, and moving intentionally toward collaborative decision-making. It involves strengthening relationships between leaders and members as well as members with each other -- all those things that contribute to loving and caring relationships -- to “one anothering.” Our **common life** is to give visible expression to the Missional Strategy of our congregation.

Designing in the area of **FORMATION** has to do with cultivating those basic Christian practices that form a congregation as the living Body of Christ—a missional community. It will involve forming the congregation as a worshiping, welcoming, learning, serving, stewarding, and witnessing community. Thus, the congregation by those practices will itself become a manifestation of the Missional Strategy.

Designing **RESOURCES** involves planning for the cultivation, utilization, and stewardship of the church’s resources. These resources include material possessions (facilities and finances), the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the community of faith and its leaders, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Designs for **Resources** are to give visible expression to the Missional Strategy.

**STRUCTURE** has to do with defining the congregation’s work, along with clarifying the roles, responsibilities, procedures, policies, and rules needed to equip and enable its life and witness. Designing your church’s **Structure** will have to do not only with “governance” but also with structuring for *koinonia*—a common life that forms and expresses Christian faith.

*Designing Strategic Ministries, The Center for Parish Development*

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**BE HUNGRY**  
2008 30 Hour Famine

*A big thank you  
to everyone who helped  
support our youth  
in the 30 Hour Famine!*

With your help our youth were able to raise \$700 to sponsor children through World Vision as well as take part in an eye opening experience to see what it is like to experience hunger.

*-Youth Ministries Coordinator, Katie Peterson*

**To learn more about World Vision and help children in the U.S. and the world lead safer, healthier lives, visit [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org).**

## life of the church

### OUR THIRD QUARTER MISSION FOCUS IS *WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?*

Summer Worship schedule ..... Sundays - 10 am  
 Back Row Broads Study Group ... Wednesdays - 10 am  
 Crafters Open House & Lunch ..... Thursdays - 10 am  
 4 ..... Independence Day  
 15 ..... Elders Meeting - 7 pm  
 19 ..... Lunch with a Friend - 10 am at Peace Lutheran  
 21 ..... PaTH Design Team Training & BBQ - 6:30 pm  
 22 ..... Diaconate Meeting - 7 pm

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Church Retreat at Holden Village ..... October 10-12**

## Summer Worship Series: Listening to the Sermon on the Mount

The Sermon on the Mount contains some of Jesus' most famous sayings:

*Blessed are the poor in spirit...*  
*You are the light of the world...*  
*...turn the other cheek...*  
*Love your enemies...*  
*Our Father in heaven...*  
*Consider the lilies...*  
*Do to others as you would have them to do...*

Can we find guidance in the Sermon on the Mount for shaping our life as the church today?

What does the Sermon on the Mount have to say to 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples?

Come worship with us this summer as we explore this rich tradition. Join the online conversation at [www.fccreads.wordpress.com](http://www.fccreads.wordpress.com)



### Remembering in Prayer: *Youth at Gwinwood Camp*

Fisher Patterson ..... June 30-July 2  
 Tyler Pasola ..... July 14-20  
 Emma Forslund ..... July 28-August 2