

The Bell



P.O. BOX 1191

ISSAQUAH WA 98027

The monthly newsletter of The Community Church of Issaquah July 2014

A Word from the Pastor

“There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.”

-1 John 4:18 (NRSV)

A few years ago there was a “reality show” on television called *The Fear Factor*. In the show people competed against each other in overcoming fearful situations. The show did quite well for a few years before flaming out.

I wish that the “fear factor” would similarly “flame out” in relation to religion and politics. For many people the promotion of religion in general and Christian faith in particular has to do with inciting fear. The central motivator to Christian faith is to incite a fear of hell in people. Faith is little more than eternal fire insurance. Books like the *Left Behind* series play upon this even more by trying to make people fearful of a violent end of time where God comes in and wipes out the unbelieving world.

Present-day American politics has much of this fear factor in it as well. “Immigrants are trying to take over our country!” “Islam is out to destroy us!” “Gays and Lesbians are waging war on the family!” “The government is trying to take away all of our guns so they can make us a dictatorship!” Many people, from many different perspectives, try to make things go their way through manipulation of people by fear. It’s

like the only motivator strong enough to change people is fear, so let’s ramp that fear up as much as we can to get people to do what we want.

In light of this approach, the letter of 1 John comes to us with a decidedly different approach. “There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear...” Jesus Christ came into the world not to ramp up our fear of God and death, not to wave punishment in front of our face, but to love us, to tell us “fear not, I am with you” and to take our punishment upon him. That’s because God understands that love is a better motivator of human behavior than is fear. Why shouldn’t that be so? The Bible tells us that we were made in His Image, in the Image of the one who IS love! (Gen. 1:26; 1 John 4:7-8).

Some might point out that this conflicts with how the Old Testament speaks of a fearsome God who destroys the world in a flood, and rains down hail and brimstone on a sinful city, or who orders war as retribution. But even in the Old Testament that is only part of the picture. There are nearly a hundred times in the Bible where God calls us to “Do not be afraid,” or “Fear not.” Favorites of mine include: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, Therefore *we will not fear*, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea...” (Psalm 46:1-2); and “...do not

be frightened or dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9).

“Perfect love casts out fear.” Maybe the reason this is true is because when you know God is love, and when you know God is in

ultimate control, what is there to be afraid of? So, instead of trying to fill people with fear in order to control them, why not try to fill them with the love of God in order to set them free?

-Pastor Keith Madsen

‘Glocal’ Christians

Often when we talk about living as a missionary, debate arises about whether we are to minister locally or go globally. The phrase *glocal Christians* means we’re to be both local and global in our mission. Jesus lays down a challenge that isn’t either/or but both/and.

Being glocal involves being aware of your surrounding community as well as your larger world, and then entering into it with the love of Jesus. God is already at work out there. Our job is simply to have our eyes open to see him and join in that labor.

As you and your church decide what part in God’s story you’re being asked to play, don’t fall into the debate about whether it’s in local ministry or global ministry. Be radical followers of Jesus in both.

~ Rev. Mike Paulson

Rhythms of the Spirit

Nurturing a Contemplative Life

From ABCUSA Connections:

Do you struggle for balance between prayer and activity? Do you long for more silence and solitude in your life and ministry? More energy for compassion, peace and justice?

The Rhythms of the Spirit conference, offered in a retreat style and in two locations for 2014, provides a unique opportunity to explore and practice the contemplative life together. We’ll focus on your own spiritual practice providing time to develop solitude and silence, creating the expansive space necessary to welcome God’s voice. If you desire spiritual direction, each conference will provide the opportunity for you to meet one-on-one with a spiritual companion. Please join us.

- Summer: July 28-August 1, 2014; Green Lake Conference Center, Wisconsin
- Fall: November 3-7, 2014; Redwood Glen, California

CCI Outreach



Thank you to all who contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing in June. We received a total of \$493.

From The Salvation Army

“Thank you! We have received your gift of \$350 on 6/9/2014 to support life-changing work of The Salvation Army.

On any given day in our community, The Salvation Army reaches out and touches the lives of men, women and children in desperate need. Because of your gift, The Salvation Army will be able to provide meals for the hungry, lodging and shelter for the hurting and homeless, and provide social services to a growing number of our struggling neighbors.

Friends like you who invest in transforming the lives of others, make it possible for us to continue our deep commitment to provide a hand up, not a hand out. We feel privileged that you have chosen to place your confidence in us through your generous gift, and for your partnership in assisting those who are in need.

YOU help us to continue to do the most good in our community. If you are interested in learning more about our services, or would like to tour any of our facilities please contact us at 206-281-4600.

May God bless you as you continue to bless others.

Major Doug Tollerud
Divisional Commander

Your gift to The Salvation Army will be used now and throughout the year to support Salvation Army services in our community. Thank you!”

Audio CDs

The Deacons purchased some CDs for use by members of the congregation and friends in fellowship. Available for check-out are: Grace Happens Here and He Still Moves Stones by Max Lucado, and The New Testament, NKJV, read by Johnny Cash. Stop by or contact the office if you'd like to check one out.

July Church Events

Picnic BBQ

Sunday, July 6th, there will be a Potluck Picnic BBQ at the Ross home immediately following our worship service. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided, along with coffee and iced tea. Bring a dish to share, or toppings for the burgers (lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles). For the toppings, please check with others so we don't get inundated with these.

Board Meeting

Our Board meeting will be Sunday, July 20th, after worship and coffee fellowship; 2:45 p.m.

Quarterly All-Church Meeting

We will hold our quarterly all-church meeting after coffee fellowship on July 27th. Our focus this quarter will be outreach and evangelism, in addition to giving you an update on progress with our new facility.

Adult Forum

We are studying the book of John. John's purpose in writing the book is so that you might believe in Jesus Christ. All are welcome to join us. The Forum meets Sundays at 12:30 p.m. downstairs.

Other Church News

New Worship Space

Things are moving along on the remodeling of our new church space. Our building and fire department permits have been granted. We have ordered our building sign and sanctuary furniture. Our sound equipment has been delivered. Work has begun on the stained glass panels to be placed near the entry. Investigation is being done on wall and carpet colors, as well as kitchen appliances. Duane Bowen has created a beautiful wall cross! A contract for the interior work has been signed with Grette Custom Woodworking and will begin July 1st. The Aesthetics Committee consists of Bessie Burton, Teri Hansen, and Charlotte Scherer, as well as Pastor Keith Madsen and Moderator Mary Cline, ex-officio. Talk to one of them if you have questions or input.

Thank You

Thanks to Juanita Frye for providing funds for the walnut wood used in the new cross and to Duane Bowen for crafting it. It will be enjoyed for many years.

Community Outreach

Tools for School

The Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank (IFCB) is collecting and filling backpacks for children of low-income families, to use this fall. The supplies will be donated by corporate donors. They are asking churches to donate backpacks. If people would like to donate cash for the purchase of supplies or backpacks, that works, too. We have boxes in the lobby on Sunday afternoons in which to place donated backpacks. You can also drop any by the church office during the week. We will deliver them to the IFCB before July 21st.

Tent City 4

From Temple B'nai Torah, current hosts of TC4: "I'm writing today to ask your congregants to consider providing dinner to the residents of Tent City 4 one night this summer . . . We look to volunteers to buy ingredients and cook dinner every night for Tent City residents. This is where we need all our friends and neighbors to pitch in . . . We're especially eager to fill the July calendar. Contact tc4volunteer@templebnaitorah.org with questions or to volunteer."

The Greater Church Community

- ✦ July 18th-19th —Japanese Baptist "Gym" Sale, 9AM-4PM. More stuff than a garage sale! Annual gym sale. There will be household goods, clothing, Asian items, fabric, sewing items, books, toys, etc. The proceeds from the sale will support the work of JBC, especially their missionaries in Japan. Held at Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway, Seattle. Parking behind the church.
- ✦ July 19th— Evergreen Association BBQ/Dessert Auction. Renton Cedar River Trail Park, 12-2 PM. Tickets \$20/each. Seeking dessert contributions for the auction, contact Clem Winbush at 253-859-2226 if you wish to contribute.
- ✦ September 13th—Biennial Meeting of the Washington Baptist Convention will be held at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship. The meeting will begin with lunch, followed by a workshop on new non-profit rules for churches.

"There are two freedoms—the false, where a man is free to do what he likes; the true, where he is free to do what he ought."

~ Charles Kingsley

Food for Thought

Last Sunday Pastor Keith helped us understand the scripture reading: Acts 17:1-9. I felt very motivated to spend more time reading and trying to learn from Bible passages such as these. And, then.... lo and behold, I open the church cookbook and read the perfect example of a Bible treasure hunt: a recipe for Scripture Cake. (The recipe was a contribution from Helen Thomas.)

Each of the cake ingredients reference a Bible verse - in order to make the cake the cook must research the passages and figure out the “clues” for the ingredient. According to Internet sources, mothers used recipes for Scripture Cake (also known as Bible Cake, Scriptural Cake, and Old Testament Cake) to teach girls how to bake and to learn their Bible verses. Some researchers believe that these recipes originated in the 1700’s.

I am eager to spend the next few weeks discovering the ingredients for this cake and I invite you to join me. (Note: there are plenty of cheats on the Internet that I have tried my best to avoid looking at. I have to be honest – I am pretty sure I saw that the first ingredient is figs.)

Scripture Cake (Food from the Bible) contributed by Helen Thomas
From “Family Favorites, 1890-1990, Community Baptist Church, Issaquah, Washington”

3 ½ c. First Kings 4:22	¼ c. Judges 4:19
1 c. Judges 5:25	6 Tbsp. First Samuel 14:25
2 c. Jeremiah 6:20	2 tsp. Amos 4:5
2 c. First Samuel 30:12	1 pinch Leviticus 2:13
2 c. Nahum 3:12	season to taste with II Chronicles 9:9
3 c. Jeremiah 17:11	
2 c. Numbers 17:8	

Mix together and bake as you would any fruit cake, in a low oven at 275 degrees, for about 1 hour or until toothpick inserted in cake comes out clean.

~ Teri Hansen

“Prayer is not a spare wheel that you pull out when in trouble; it is a steering wheel that directs us in the right path throughout life.”

~ Anonymous

Special Dates in July

Tuesday, July 1st— Canada Day

Friday, July 4th— Independence Day



TO...

1 Linda Eastlick
1 Dawn Weaver
3 Lee Schubert
6 Duane Bowen
26 Robert Burton
27 Alice Good

“ Ah, summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it.”

~ Russell Baker

July 2014 at CCI

- Potluck Picnic BBQ - 7/6
- Board Meeting - 7/20
- 2nd Quarter All-Church Meeting - 7/27
- Bell Deadline - Monday 7/28

Hot Air

Scientists have discovered that sound travels faster in the summer than in the winter. In hot summer air, sound travels at 1,266 feet per second. But in cold air, sound travels as slow as 1,066 feet per second. So that means sermons preached in the summer will naturally be shorter, right?

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST

Perhaps you would like to add these church family members to your prayer concerns:

1. **Marge Armstrong**
*16300 St Hwy 305, #37
Poulsbo, WA 98370*
2. **Sylvia Coulton** - at son Peter's
*8912 Wildwood Ave SW
Lakewood, WA 98498*
3. **Jane Forbes**
Kirkland, WA
4. **Don & Alice Good**
Bellevue, WA
5. **Geri Hardisty**
*Premier Adult Care
Sammamish, WA*
6. **Martha Nordhagen**
Adams House, Oregon
7. **Sylvia Olsson** (425) 793-5488
*Chateau Valley Ctr.
4450 Davis Ave S.
Renton, WA 98055*
8. **Joe Shultice**
*219 Cedar Ave S.
North Bend, WA 98045*
9. **Dody Tweeddale**
Aegis of Issaquah
10. **Cherie Vivolo** - at home