

The Bell



205 MT PARK BLVD SW

ISSAQUAH WA 98027

The monthly newsletter of The Community Church of Issaquah May 2011

The Power of Belief

“...truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.”

-Matthew 17:20 (NRSV)

From the time we are young children we are taught the power of belief. We are read the children’s story about *The Little Engine that Could* and how that little engine only had to keep saying “I think I can!” to pull his load over that impossible mountain. Peter Pan required belief in fairies and fairy dust of all who would fly above dangerous pirates, and what about the leap of faith required by a princess to kiss a frog and expect a prince to emerge? Than the children’s story, *Alice in Wonderland*, when Alice says she can’t believe impossible things, the White Queen replies that she always believes six impossible things before breakfast. In a children’s world where belief is powerful, what is so hard about moving mountains?

The only problem is we are also taught to leave such belief behind when we become adults. Belief in the power of God is tossed into the same refuse container as belief in fairies, talking white rabbits and frog princes; and it’s all tossed out to be discarded or recycled into the next generation of children.

Too bad. We could sure use some mountain-moving faith today.

Still, if we keep our eyes open to what actually happens in the world, instead of what other

adults say is *supposed* to happen, we can find some child-like spirits who have refused to part with the power of belief, and have in the process changed the world. Once upon a time there was an adult world where adults didn’t believe it would ever be possible for people to fly in flying machines. Once upon a time there was an adult world where people didn’t think it would be possible to talk to people anywhere in the world on a little metal wireless box the size of a deck of cards. Once upon a time there was an adult world that couldn’t conceive of a whole library being stored not in a large building, but in one little electronic book called a Kindle.

But there are other even more world-changing events that adults used to believe would be impossible: that the Soviet Union would fall and most of its constituent nations would turn to capitalism and democracy; the diseases which used to ravish the whole world like tuberculosis and polio would be virtually eradicated; or that an African-American would be elected President of the United States.

Christ tells us that if we have faith the size of a mustard seed we can move mountains, and the history of our world, especially over the last hundred years has proven the truth of that repeatedly; and yet still many of us do not fully believe.

The community Church of Issaquah is engaged in an effort to rebuild itself from a small, struggling congregation into a dynamic force for Christ in our community and world. It seems like a mountain of a task. Which makes it a perfect size for our God.

-Pastor Keith Madsen

Special Dates for May

- Christian Family Week, May 2-8, 2011
- National Day of Prayer, May 5, 2011
- Mother's Day, May 8, 2011
- Armed Forces Day, May 21, 2011
- Memorial Day, May 30, 2011

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST

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

1. Marge Armstrong, Lake Hills Family Home
2. Faye Cooper, at Marionwood
3. Rose Matthai, Aegis Assisted Living
4. Robert (Bob) Pusch, Group Home, Burien
5. Ken Schmelzer, at home
6. Dorothy Swearson, Issaquah Care Center
7. Sylvia Olsson, living with daughter in Maple Valley
8. Florence Watkins
9. Martha Nordhagen Adams House, Oregon
10. Geri Hardesty



CCI RETREAT AT CAMP BURTON

Coming Soon
May 20 & 21

THEME: VICTORY IN
CHANGE

PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14
(... "running toward the goal"...)

Back due to popular request, the
retreat theme song

From Glory to Glory He's Changing Me

For your enjoyment: games, music, talent show, snacks.

For your spiritual growth: quiet time, small groups,
group input, and challenges beyond.

Arrive anytime after noon on Fri-
day the 20th

for free time/games/registration.

Dinner @ 6:30

Return home after dinner on Sat-
urday.

See Carol Schubert for registration details.
Included are 4 meals and modern accommoda-
tions.

(\$40 per person)

If you wish to help defray costs for CCI; paying the full
amount of \$85/per person is an option.



TOILETRY BAGS DELIVERED

Twenty-five toiletry bags with such items as soap, toothpaste, tooth brush, deodorant, etc. were delivered to Friends of Youth. These bags will be given to homeless youth.

According to workers the youth appreciate these bags. Sometimes this bag is the only thing they might have to call their own.

The toiletry bags project is a mission sponsored by the Women's Mission Fellowship. The entire church family helped by donating items for the bags. Thank you church family for your donations.

A Summer Parking Lot Sale!

We are wanting to have a "Parking Lot Sale" this Summer, where we will sell unneeded items in the church building, as well as donated items from church members and friends (save up items to donate instead of donating them to Goodwill or having a separate garage sale!). Proceeds from the sale will go towards a combination of church expenses and a mission outreach project, such as a proposed regional mission trip to Haiti next year. We need people to volunteer to help with the planning and carrying out of this sale. Any volunteers?

Talk to Pastor Keith.

CCI WORK PARTY

Thank you to all the following who came out to help on
April 23:

David H., Woody, Josh, Lee, Carol, Duane, Vern, Linda,
Merry, Charlotte, Keith M. and Neil B.

From Mountain Creek Fellowship: Wally and Mike

ONE GREAT HOUR of SHARING

Offering will be received June 5, 12 and 19

Following in Jesus' footsteps, we give our hard-earned resources through One Great Hour of Sharing to help

- ⇒ build homes, schools, medical clinics, clean water and sewage facilities in villages devastated by earthquakes, floods, and poverty
- ⇒ bring safety, shelter, and food to refugees after often violent circumstances have made their hometowns uninhabitable
- ⇒ nurture stronger futures and self sufficiency through health care, education, job training, and tools for livelihoods.

Mission Committee News

HOME MISSIONS: We will be donating \$350 each to,

American Baptist Camp Burton and Cascade Meadows and World Vision (Sea/Tac area program KidReach which is one on one academic mentoring relationships with children and youth.)

AMERICAN BAPTIST NATIONAL:

Donations to America for Christ are \$560 to date.
In June we will accepting donations towards One Great Hour of Sharing.

Mission Committee: Carol Schubert, Roma Bowen, Charlotte Scherer

Our Speaker Series at the Library

The presentation at the library by our first speaker was attended by 21 people. Michael Ramos of the Church Council of Greater Seattle received very good reviews. And he himself gave a strong positive review of our next speaker, Jawad Khaki – “You’ll love him!” he said at the end of his own presentation.

We have scheduled our next two speakers in our series, “Faith and Today’s World.” The series continues to be at the Issaquah Public Library in order to provide more convenient access for the public. All interested persons of any faith are encouraged to attend. These sessions will be from 3-5 p.m. in Sunday a month.

Sunday, May 15th (3-5 P.M.) – “Interfaith Relations – Christianity & Islam” – Imam Jawad Khaki of the Iman Canter in Kirkland will be our speaker.

Sunday, June 26th (3-5 P.M.) – “Gay Spirituality” – Ken Burr will be our speaker. As an energetic public speaker, Ken has frequently presented seminars on this topic at the National Conventions of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. He is also an ordained minister in the ABCUSA.

For more info, see our church website under “Coming Events” (www.commchurchiss.org)



Mother's Day Tea

Saturday, May 14th

3:00 p.m.

All women invited to come!!

Bring your Sister, Daughter, Grandkids,
Friend.

The more the merrier!

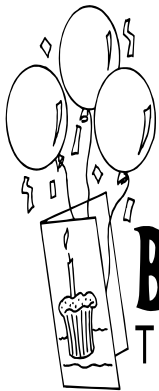
Share in good food, delightful entertain-
ment and fellowship.

Please RSVP to Sarah at the church of-
fice. 425-392-6447

May 2011 at CCI:

- WMF Meeting - Tuesday 4/5..... at 1:00 pm
- Deacons Meeting - Thursday 4/1 -----at 10:30 am
- Trustees Meeting– Sunday 4/3 ----- at 12:30 pm
- Council Meeting - Sunday 4/10----- at 12:30 pm
- Young At Heart-Thursday 4/21-----at 11:30 am
- Bell Deadline - Monday 4/25

Happy May Birthday to....



BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH

- 1 Clem Winbush
- 2 Billie Jo Hendrickson
- 9 Pat Hamlin
- 17 Gladys MacKenzie
- 17 Keith Hansen
- 18 Roma Bowen
- 20 Zoey Little
- 31 Charlotte Scherer



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