

# The Bell



P.O. Box 1191

ISSAQUAH WA 98027

The monthly newsletter of The Community Church of Issaquah September 2014

## **A Word from the Pastor**

“Do not remember the former things,  
Or consider the things of old.  
I am about to do a new thing;  
Now it springs forth, do you not perceive  
it?”

-Isaiah 43:18-19 (NRSV)

People sometimes think that those who are part of a congregation of older people, only do “old, traditional” things – what they have always done before. But starting at or near the end of the month of September, we will be **BREAKING THAT STEREOTYPE!** God is about to do **A NEW THING** through us.

The old stereotype says that old people worship in old buildings, but God’s “new thing” in us, is that we will be moving into a newly remodeled building, built to suit our fellowship.

The old stereotype says that people worship in fixed pews, with a long narrow sanctuary where the people feel distant from each other, but our new sanctuary will bring us close together.

The old stereotype says that only a new start-up church of younger people worship in a storefront church, but we, the longest-established church in Issaquah, are doing a **NEW THING**, and our new facility is right in the heart of one of our city’s busiest commercial districts – Gilman Boulevard.

The old stereotype says that when a church

declines in numbers and becomes made up of mostly older members, it is just getting ready to quietly fade away; but this church is doing a **NEW THING** – we are being reborn to a new mission, a mission of giving to people in need, and a mission of reaching out in Christ’s name to the retired and semi-retired people of our community.

So, what do **YOU** want to be part of? – an old stereotype of what older people are supposed to do and be like; or God’s **NEW THING** he is doing in our community?

The Scripture passage from Isaiah was written at a time of transition of the people of Israel. They were going through hard times as a nation, and they kept recalling “the good old days”, the days when God led them out of Egypt. But God was telling the people through Isaiah that what he was about to do for the people was so great that they should not even think about those “things of old”. The new thing was that he was about to lead them out of captivity to Babylon, and to lead them to a time of national revival back in their home country.

For us, God’s **NEW THING** is that he is leading us to be reborn as a church. We have “things of old” we like to think about as well – how everything was in the 80’s and 90’s back in the old building. We certainly want to be thankful for those experiences. But what God wants us to

really focus on, to “perceive” is the NEW THING to which he now calls us. Let’s open our hearts to what he will be doing through us in the future!

-Pastor Keith Madsen

## **Art Needed for New Church’s Reception Area**

CCI members/friends are invited to donate or loan examples of their art work to decorate the reception area in our new church building.

Please contact Charlotte Scherer

425-392-1185 hm or 425-974-0135 cell

## **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.

- Fall: November 3-7, 2014; Redwood Glen, California

## **Everyday Heroes**

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker.

~ Helen Keller



# WORLD MISSION OFFERING

**Rise to the Challenge!**

## **Support International Ministries through the 2014 World Mission Offering**

“As you may have heard, the 2014 World Mission Offering theme focuses on the Macedonian Vision in Acts 16—and how this vision is alive even today through International Ministries (IM) in Macau, in China and all over the world.

“Over the years, [International Ministries have] been thrilled by the ways that churches . . . have been supporting individual missionaries and development workers. This helps churches connect in a more personal way to specific mission projects.

“. . . there is also a real need for ongoing support for the global work of IM, for recruiting new missionaries and development workers, for the ongoing behind-the-scenes work to sustain workers in the field and for strengthening ties with our partners around the world who are acting selflessly and with courage to spread the Good News in their own regions.

“Your church’s support of IM, along with your support of specific missionaries and workers, is vitaly important!

“Thank you for your faithful support of this year’s World Mission Offering. We have a vision that God will do amazing things as IM enters into its third century.”

## CCI Outreach

### 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.

## September Church Events

### *All-Church Meeting*

An all-church meeting is being called for September 14th. The purpose is to: 1) approve budget amounts for construction costs and Ella Burt Fund outreach, 2) discuss purchase of new hymnals, and 3) determine our new worship and Adult Forum times.

### *Board Meeting*

Our Board meeting will be Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, after worship and coffee fellowship.

### *Adult Forum*

We are studying the book of Acts. Acts is about what the church did after Christ's resurrection. All are welcome to join us. In our current space, The Forum meets Sundays at 12:30 p.m. downstairs. The meeting time will change when we move to our new space, which we expect will be on September 28th.

## Other Church News

### *New Worship Space*

If you go by our new building at 660 NW Gilman Blvd, C-, you will see two new beautiful panels of stained glass to either side of the door! These panels are the work of Jim Perry at Perry Studio of Stained Glass. Our tables we will use for Adult Forum and our fellowship activities arrived recently, as well. Our baby grand piano is scheduled for delivery on September 11th, and our chairs and pulpit furniture will be delivered shortly thereafter. Many thanks to Woody and Merry's daughter, Susan Whitehead, and her husband, John Soderberg, for painting the interior walls of the space. Many thanks, as well, to volunteers who assisted in the process. 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.

## Community Outreach

### Mayor's Month of Concern

The Mayor's Month of Concern Food Drive for the Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank will run on Saturdays from September 13th through October 11th. Fall is a time of replenishment for the Food Bank as giving is generally down during the summer months. We are collecting at Fred Meyer (or an alternative store) and Front Street Market on September 27th. Check for the sign-up sheet on Sundays or talk with Pastor Keith.

## The Greater Church Community

- † September 6<sup>th</sup>—You are invited to a retirement reception in honor of **Roberta Stephens** upon her retirement from Missionary Service in Japan. If interested, contact the office for more information. It will be held at a private home in Normandy Park. Please RSVP: [tornveil@comcast.net](mailto:tornveil@comcast.net) or 206.241.6414.
- † September 13<sup>th</sup>—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.
- † October 9th-11th—Annual Meeting of the Evergreen Association. October 9th sessions to be held at Panther Lake Community Church, October 10th-11th sessions to be held at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship. Theme “Bearing with One Another in Love”, scripture Ephesians 4:1-6. Dinner and Sacred Conversation with the theme of justice, on Thursday; Business on Friday; workshops & conversations on Saturday. This year's Annual Meeting will include special Youth Events on Thursday, as well. A more comprehensive schedule is available at the church office or from Evergreen Association directly. Special guests: Rev. Nzunga Mbudiga & Mrs. Kihome Ngwemi, Missionaries to Haiti. Registration and payment is required in advance.
- † November 15<sup>th</sup>—Evergreen's Got Talent! Evergreen fundraising event, hosted by the Euro Caucus. Local and Geographically distant churches are invited to participate. Seattle First Baptist Church, 2-4 PM.

## Food for Thought

Food for Thought is on a short hiatus for Back to School. Keep your eyes on this space in the coming months.

~ Teri Hansen

## Publicity Task Force

A Publicity Task Force has been set up and is looking at options for publicizing our new location and a proposed “Grand Opening Celebration.” They are recommending we choose a short church motto, to use on publicity. Here are some suggestions that have been made:

*Serving Christ and Our Community Since 1890*

*Committed to Loving God and People Since 1890*

*An Inclusive Church Teaching a Gospel of Grace*

*Celebrating Our Past; Envisioning God’s Future*

*Caring for “the Least of These” in Christ’s Name*

Which one do you like best? Do you have another suggestion?

Presently, Marilyn Boone, Teri Hansen, Merry Ross, and Jacquie Powell have agreed to be on this task force. Let the pastor know if you would also like to be part of it.

## Baby Grand Piano

From the former owner of our new baby grand piano, Robert Skeelee:

“I enjoyed meeting Velma Walker and Keith Madsen. It was so impressive to watch and listen to Velma take control of the piano, her touch releasing some beautiful music for Keith and I to listen to.

“I can just imagine how thrilled the worshipers will be with a new piano in place and Velma there to play it so skillfully. I know I’m happy the piano has found such a wonderful new home.”

## Special Dates in September

- Labor Day - Monday, 9/1
- National Grandparents Day - Sunday, 9/7
- Patriot Day - Thursday, 9/11
- Hispanic Heritage Month - 9/15-10/15
- First Day of Autumn - Tuesday, 9/23



**TO...**

**3 Rose Cooper**  
**7 Cherie Vivolo**  
**10 Lynie Reeves**  
**11 Sarah Little**  
**16 Josh Byle (Hansen)**  
**26 Marge Armstrong**  
**28 Dale Gerner**

## September 2014 at CCI

- All-Church Meeting - 9/14
- Bell Deadline - Thursday 9/26
- 1st Sunday in **New Worship Space** - 9/28
- Board Meeting - 9/28

“Use what talent you possess. The woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those who sang best.”

~ Henry Van Dyke

# **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. **Wilma Hill** - at home
7. **Martha Nordhagen**  
*Adams House, Oregon*
8. **Sylvia Olsson** (425) 793-5488  
*Chateau Valley Ctr.  
4450 Davis Ave S.  
Renton, WA 98055*
9. **Joe Shultice**  
*219 Cedar Ave S.  
North Bend, WA 98045*
10. **Dody Tweeddale**  
*Aegis of Issaquah*
11. **Cherie Vivolo** - at home