



The monthly newsletter of The Community Church of Issaquah September 2011

## **Signs of the Church**

“No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.”

-1 John 4:12 (NRSV)

Most of you have probably noticed some of our signs for what we will be doing as a church in the months ahead: signs promoting our Intergenerational Sunday School (in front of the church, by our playground and in Elvira Lyndsay’s yard); and signs promoting our Haiti fund-raiser (by the regular church sign).; Of course, we also have that regular church sign in front of the building, which tells of our worship and Adult forum times. These are important signs because they help make people aware of what we are doing as a church.

Still, these are not the most important “signs” our church has.

Our church’s most important signs are you, our members. That’s right, you also are one of our church’s signs. You are a sign because your life points to what the true nature of our church is, and beyond that to the nature of the God we worship. The passage above from 1 John tells us that if we love those around us, then we help the people around us see an unseeable God. So, another way of saying that is that we become a sign for who God is and how God can be found.

Let’s be good church signs which point people to a loving church and a loving Lord. There are many good ways to do this: (1) when you see someone in need, ask that good old question, “What would Jesus do?” and then respond to them in love; (2) when you see someone who is new to the community, welcome them! Point them to our church as a place where they can find a true, caring spiritual family; and (3) listen to people with the ears of our Savior – show you are interested in them, in what they think, what they believe, and in what they long for. These are not “church marketing tricks” designed to grow our church, regardless of the needs of the people we meet. Rather, this is what we are called to do in order to point to the reality of God’s love, regardless of whether our church directly benefits.

A popular Christian hymn declares, “They will know we are Christians by our love.” Let’s live out the truth of that hymn.

-Pastor Keith Madsen

## Salmon Days Parking

Volunteers needed for Salmon Days parking. See Keith Hansen or call 425-614-3044

## **WORLD MISSION OFFERING**

**October 9, 16 and 23**

We can show God's love by strong, solid support of the partners, projects and missionaries who serve in places like Haiti all around the world through the World Mission Offering (WMO).

Your missionaries have been called to serve and preach the Gospel "in season and out of season..." whether the news media is attentive or not. And it is by your support that they are able to fulfill God's calling. **100% of your church's gift to the World Mission Offering goes to support the work of partners, projects and missionaries.**

- ▶ **Live the Word**
- ▶ **Proclaim the Word**
- ▶ **Be Transformed**

**WORLD  
MISSION  
OFFERING**



## **Intergenerational Sunday School**

Looking for a Sunday School where parents and children can study the same things, spend time together, and still have focus on age appropriate study? Consider The Community Church's Intergenerational Sunday School!

In this study we will join together across age groups, with children (ages 5-11), youth (ages 12-18) and adults all sharing together in the same study. We start out all together and sing some opening songs. Then someone reads a Scripture and a popular children's story which has a similar teaching to the Scripture. Then class will then break off into groups for adults, youth and children, each of which will explore the connection between the Scripture and the children's story at an age-appropriate level. Children will do related crafts; youth will learn Bible study methods and learn to connect messages from popular songs; and adults will really wrestle with the meaty issues. Then all will come back and share what we learned with each other.

This story will help parents and grandparents who read children's stories to their children to connect those stories to what God teaches us in God's Word. And youth will learn to do the same, not only with the stories from their childhood, but also with the songs they listen to on their radios and mp3 players!

This great new approach will start on Sunday, September 11 (in two weeks!)

All Church Work Party at 1 on Sep. 10



## **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. Rose Matthai, Aegis Assisted Living
3. Robert (Bob) Pusch, Group Home, Burien
4. Ken Schmelzer, at home
5. Dorothy Swearson, Issaquah Care Center
6. Sylvia Olsson, living with daughter in Maple Valley
7. Florence Watkins, 240 S Silke Rd Apt 105 Colville, WA 99114
8. Martha Nordhagen Adams House, Oregon
9. Geri Hardesty
10. Roger Frye, 6200 123rd Ave SE Bellevue, WA 98006

## September 2011 at CCI:

- Deacons Meeting - Thursday 9/5 -----at 10:30 am
- Trustees Meeting– Wednesday 9/7 ----- at 9:00 am
- Council Meeting - Sunday 9/14----- at 12:30 pm
- Bell Deadline - Monday 9/26

## Happy September Birthday to.....



**BIRTHDAYS**  
THIS MONTH

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



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