



BROADVIEW COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

STEEPLE NEWS

325 N. 125TH ST., SEATTLE WA 98133
206-363-8060, FAX: 206-363-4791
HTTP://WWW.BROADVIEWUCC.ORG

Steeple News
Volume 3 Issue 2
March 2007
Edited by Mary Mackenzie

THEMES AND THOUGHTS ON THE LENTEN SEASON by Pastor Dan Stern

During the post-Christmas Epiphany season, there is in the church plenty of singing, prayer, and reflection centered around the theme of light shining through our prolonged winter darkness. It culminates with Transfiguration Sunday, that grand finale on a mountaintop, where Jesus is revealed to us in bright glory as being one with God.

That grand finale, that big shining moment, that ultimate Epiphany, comes right before the more-somber season of Lent. This big change, this major transition in liturgical theme and tone, is no accident.

It may seem ironic that we celebrate Epiphany, a season of light during shortest-days Winter, and acknowledge Lent, a season of darkness just as days are getting longer and Springtime is coming into flower. And yet just as day and night follow one another in close proximity, so too do transfiguration and tribulation. "One minute you're up, the next, you're down, half an inch of water, and you think you're gonna' drown, but that's the way the world goes 'round." (John Prine)

Transitions do have a way of taking place in our own lives, both big and small ones - and transitions are both perilous and promising. Yet we are called by God in Christ to become strong enough to carry the light with us into the dark corners of our lives, as well as to carry the awareness of our capacity to endure darkness into the shiny, happy times.

Paying close attention to tonal and thematic transitions in our common worship life can help us deal with our own personal life transitions. At border crossings in our lives, we're urged and sometimes forced to rethink our priorities, to give thought not only to what is okay about our lives, but to what may be the very best things of all. In other words, Lent is "an opportunity to follow Jesus into the borderland at the edge of all that is familiar and settled in our lives", and to open ourselves to whole new experiences in our lives.

The Lenten season is bordered on one side by the glory of Jesus' transfiguration and on the other by the wonder of his resurrection. (Easter) But it was into the wilderness in-between where Jesus entered new territory both literally and symbolically. Jesus certainly experienced his share of trials, as he struggled to remain faithful to God in the face of hunger,

competing gods, and risky situations. We can make it through too.

SUNDAYS IN LENT, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER

3rd Sunday in Lent – March 11: (Daylight Savings Time begins – set clocks forward)

Theme – "A Holy Fear (Staying Alert to What's Precious)"

Broadview Choir joins with The OK Chorale

Readings: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

4th Sunday in Lent – March 18: Theme – "The Intrusion of Grace; One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering

Readings: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21;

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

5th Sunday in Lent – March 25: Theme – "Love's Extravagant Outpouring"

Readings: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

6th Sunday in Lent – April 1: Theme – Palm/Passion Sunday

Readings: Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

Maundy Thursday – April 5: Joint Service with St. Paul's at St. Paul's UCC (6515 12th NW, Seattle, WA 98117)

Readings: Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Continued on pg. 2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE #'s
Themes and Thoughts on the Lenten Season	1
Sundays in Lent, Holy Week & Easter	1-2
New Members Biographies	2
Remembrances of Dick Black	2-3
New on iUCC	3-4
Excerpts from Into 2008	4
I Ain't Marchin' Anymore	5
Birthday List	5
Announcements	5-6

Continued from pg. 2

Easter Sunday – April 8: 8:45 AM “Imagining Resurrection in Drama and Film”; 10 AM Worship Theme – “Jesus Alive”
Readings: Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

2nd Sunday of Easter – April 15: Baptism of Luisa Bloch-Garcia

Readings: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150; Revelation 7:9-17; John 20:19-31

NEW MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES

Angela Burke: Angela Burke lives within walking distance of Broadview Church with her husband, Daryl and their 7-year-old son, Sullivan (mother and stepson have also been our guests). Angela liked the messages our banners and signs projected in the neighborhood. After checking out our website, she decided to definitely give us a try. She’s appreciated the intelligent sermons, easy-to-follow bulletins, and open and affirming, neighborly genuineness of the people. Angela works long hours, primarily as a Lake Forest Park elementary school teacher. She already become quite active among us, including hosting coffee hours on several occasions.

Tom & Thea Ward have agreed to be Angela’s membership mentor.

WELCOME, ANGELA!

(206-779-3218; 12558 North Park Ave N, Seattle 98133; Angela’s birthday:TBA)

Christie Dickerson: Christie Dickerson also lives close to the church with her caregiver / friend Susana. After Susana did some initial research, she invited Christie to attend BCUCC with her. The connection stuck. Christie, with Susana by her side, has been participating regularly already in a variety of ways – as coffee hour host and greeter, helping with Steeple News mailings, in discussion groups, and her favorite activity—singing in the choir. She loves attending services, and thinks the sermons are inspiring and educational.

Christie was born in California and grew up near Greenlake before her family moved to this neighborhood. After some years of living on her own in an apartment on Holman Road, she returned to the family home, just a few blocks from BCUCC, after her mother died.

Christie cares about making people aware of accessibility, and likes people with a sense of humor. Being a part of a church community is a brand new experience for Christie, and one she is enjoying very much.

Joan Henjum has agreed to be Christie's membership mentor.

WELCOME, CHRISTIE!

(206-362-4728 – don't phone before 11 am unless it's urgent; 12033 Phinney Avenue N; Christie's birthday: December 25)

David & Brooks Ladwig: Brooks and David Ladwig, married to each other for about a year now, were ready for a new local faith community which honors the questioning of the status quo and better represents their values. They decided Broadview seemed just right. Brooks has primarily Missouri Synod Lutheran roots, while David, once on a national board for our denomination, and a member of Boston's historic 'Old South' Church, is the one person joining today with strong, long-established UCC roots. Brooks lived and taught in Japan and is gifted with a wide range of skills, including sign language, fundraising, and teaching ESL. David, who's been faithfully singing with the Broadview choir each week, is open to assisting with worship leadership, is interested in men's spiritual growth, and loves to bake and cook. Both are gainfully employed with Premera-Blue Cross.

Charles Cressey has agreed to be David and Brooks' membership mentor.

WELCOME, DAVID AND BROOKS!

(206-695-2120; Home Address: 1755 NE 130th Place, Mailing Address: P.O. Box 25595, Seattle 98165 Brooks' birthday: February 8; David's birthday: January 17)

REMEMBRANCES OF DICK BLACK

Born on a farm next to railroad tracks in Orchards, WA (near Vancouver, WA), Richard (Dick) Black retained a love for trains throughout his lifetime (I'm not certain whether he retained that same love for farms, but did love his vegetable garden). Dick had four brothers and one sister. He attended Washington State University, which is where he met his beloved wife, Merle. Since Merle's maiden name was also 'Black', they were often seated next to each other at school functions. That made it fairly easy for a shy farm boy to get acquainted with a very special lady. The closeness stuck – they got married and remained happily so for 67 years.

Dick worked many years as a mechanical and electrical engineer with GE. He had an abiding interest in the following: fathering and family, fixin' things and fishing, fresh garden vegetables, and most things financial. He was also a fab poker player, fine at chess and checkers, and well into his 90's, made frequent use of his computer (he took a computer class in his 70's).

Richard and Merle raised their four children at 12529 1st Avenue in Seattle's Broadview neighborhood. Broadview Community United Church of Christ was their home church (and remains so for Merle); their daughters and son all attended BCUCC too. One of Broadview's lasting legacies from Dick are the beautiful wood candlabras he built and gave to the church, that to this day often grace the chancel area in the sanctuary.

Continued on pg. 3

Continued from pg. 2

Dick and Merle spent the last twelve years of their married life at their 'retired years' home in Emerald Heights in Redmond (where Merle still resides). Early on, Dick volunteered as an Emerald Heights 'trailblazer' helping to construct their excellent system of walking trails.

Dick is remembered by his children and their spouses as being steady as a rock, and especially responsible in his commitment to his family.

Dick would have been 94 years young this coming June. He is survived by his loving wife, Merle, their children, Kathy, Barbara (David), Estee (Gary), and Bob (Diane), and six grandchildren. The family gathered recently to share memories in a private, informal celebration of his life.

Since Merle mentioned especially fond memories of singing in the choir at Broadview Church with David Anderson, I asked David if he'd be kind enough to recall memories he might have of Dick. David's words are inserted below:

I do so remember Dick - his big warm greetings, his laugh, his warmth, his helpful ways. Both Dick and Merle were so warm and welcoming to me when I came to Broadview and in my involvement there. They were faithful and committed, caring and generous with compliments and affirmations. Their presence at Broadview was a ministry and a blessing. And the connection continues - how good to see Estee this last Sunday at St. Paul's, though poignant. She also is such a warm and nurturing presence - clearly a daughter they have much to be proud for.

Thanks for your special attention to Merle and for your connection to those days at Broadview.

-David Anderson

A reminder to all of Merle's address, should you care to visit or to offer further condolences:

Merle Black
10901 NE 176th Circle # 1312
Redmond, WA 98052

Words to a favorite song sometimes sung at Broadview Church, from *The New Century Hymnal* (# 499):

In all our living, we belong to God; and in our dying, we are still with God;

So whether living, or whether dying, we belong to God; we belong to God.

NEW ON iUCC: observe Lent with our online community!

Based on our successful experiment during Advent—which included an Advent/Christmas Kit for home and family celebrations and real-time Advent worship, the i.UCC online community invites members of UCC congregations to join

with spiritual speakers from around the world in an interactive experience of Lent and Holy Week. Visit i.UCC community at <http://i.UCC.org> and explore:

- Daily Devotional—based on the StillSpeaking Lenten Devotional which has been mailed to all congregations. The Devotional includes one text from Scripture, a meditation, and a prayer. You can subscribe to the Devotional as a daily email delivered to your mailbox, or you can read the Devotional online.
- Lenten Kit, which includes a basic history of Lent, prayers, and suggestions for observing the three traditional Lenten disciplines: prayer, fasting, and works of love.
- Lenten reading list from Pilgrim Press and United Church Press.
- Lenten discussion on our Spirit Café forum. Join us to share your spiritual insights and experiences as you and your congregation journey through Lent, and reflect with us on the daily readings.
- Real-time Evening Prayer at 9 p.m. every night in our interactive Prayer Chapel.

Most UCC congregations have special programs, Bible Studies, and services during Lent. The i.UCC community can be a place to help you enrich your Lenten journey with other members of our growing online community!

New on ucc.org and uccvitality.org: 50th anniversary study guide

Shine, God's People is a study guide for celebrating 50 years of the United Church of Christ. Every congregation received a free copy in the January all-church mailing, and any member of the church can download the resource at <http://ucc.org/50/studyguide50.htm>.

I hope you will use this resource and encourage your church to do so also.

The guide includes five sessions that engage readers around five historic commitments of the UCC:

- Shine, God's People: Join Others in Christ (We are a united and uniting church.)
- Shine, God's People: of All Races, Cultures, and Nations (We are a multiracial and multicultural church.)
- Shine, God's People: Differently Gifted in Mind and Body (We are a church accessible to all.)
- Shine, God's People Whole and Holy, Loving Faithfully (We are an open an affirming church.)

Continued on pg. 4

Continued from pg. 3

- Shine, God's People: Struggling for justice and Peace
(We are a peace with justice church.)

Each session invites a group to pray, to encounter an historical moment, to explore life in their own congregation, to share how their own light shines around each of these commitments.

When you use this resource as an individual or in a group, share your stories about how you live out these commitments by using the response form at <http://ucc.org/50/questions>.

You'll be able to share your hopes and dreams for the wider UCC, and read the good news and hopes of others online. At our anniversary General Synod in Hartford, we'll continue to explore these commitments through prayer, reflection, and celebration.

Also new on uccvitality.org: five "Ready, Set, Grow" videos!

David Schoen
Coordinator
Congregational Vitality Initiative
Local Church Ministries
United Church of Christ

EXCERPTS FROM "INTO 2008"

Used with permission from *The Nation*. Taken from February 26, 2007 (Volume 284, Number 8) Issue, pages 3 & 4.

America desperately needs new leadership, not merely a different face. ... The fiery tenor of the times presents a historic opportunity to reverse the destructive course of a quarter-century of backlash-driven politics. Like the Great Depression of the 1930s and the civil upheavals of the 1960s, [recent] unrelenting catastrophes... have pried open the settled minds of Americans. Ideologies are in flux—and so are partisan loyalties and identities. ...

Given our profoundly unsettled political climate—and the absence of a sitting President or Vice President in the field for the first time since 1928—it's no wonder so many candidates have already, and so early, put themselves forward. Normally there would be no more dreadful prospect than a two-year campaign for President. But this time around, as they showed with some startling choices for Congress in 2006, more Americans are ready to rethink the givens. It can't hurt—just this once—to have many months to sort through the strengths and defects of the contenders.

The early favorites come hearteningly close, for the first time in our history, to actually "looking like America." ... however [more than a president who looks] different, we need one who thinks and acts—differently. We need a progressive champion who will boldly reassert

government's role as protector and uplifter of the people at home, and reinvent American foreign policy as a force for peace, not coercive power, across the globe.

At the same time, we need a leader who shuns the lordly powers that have gradually accrued to the office of the President... The huge shadow of the chief executive is part of what has deformed our political system, blotting out the rich, boisterous conversations and arguments from below and diminishing the competing influences that ought to inform and shape the national direction. No single person can deliver what we seek if that person isn't both supported by and grounded in a small-d democratic revival—starting with the style and content of the campaign itself. We need a candidate who understands that he or she can't succeed unless the people are standing alongside (ahead of the power brokers and money guys), ready to help enforce their will. ...

... The ongoing Gulf Coast catastrophe has exposed more than the racial and economic injustices of our Two Americas; it has also demonstrated the consequences of the effort to rip apart the safety net... To pull it back together and resuscitate our common purpose, we need a President who can imagine other people's suffering—the suffering of American soldiers and their families, the agony of Iraqi families being blown up and shot up by those boys and girls from Skokie and Mobile and Watts, and the grinding economic uncertainties consuming not just low-wage workers but, increasingly, the middle class. "Feeling pain" is not [enough]: The times require a President with the courage and vision to use the world's most powerful office to stamp out misery, not multiply it.

Our money-drenched politics makes it difficult for such a figure to emerge. This campaign promises to kill off the notion of public funding for elections once and for all, as candidate after candidate, fearful in particular of being fatally outspent in TV ads, declines the matching public funds that come with spending limits. Thus will the corporations and the K Street crowd gain even greater access to power. ...

There is hope in the upsurge of Internet politics, which only began to flash its potential in 2004. ... beleaguered progressives began to connect and organize through web-driven vehicles like MoveOn.org, it became clear that the next technology to dominate politics had the potential to cut in a drastically different direction from the last. ... The Internet's unprecedented potential for creating unlikely bandwagons and raising big, fast money—especially for long-shot insurgents—could shake up American politics in larger and even healthier ways.

... Let us—all of us—use this generous gifts of time to do more than look for a "winning" candidate.

QUICK QUOTE

"Humor is the prelude to faith and laughter is the beginning of prayer." - Reinhold Niebuhr

I ain't marchin' anymore (An updated version of a folk classic submitted by a member war vet.)

written by Phil Ochs

I marched to the battle of New Orleans
At the end of the early British war
A young land was a-growin'. the young blood started flowin'
But I ain't marchin' anymore
I killed my share of Indians in a thousand different fights
I was there at the Little Big Horn
I saw many men a-lyin', I saw many more a dyin'
But I ain't marchin' anymore.

Chorus

'Cause it's always the *old* who lead us off to war
Always the *young* to fall
Take a look at what we've done with a saber and a gun
Tell me, was it worth it all?

And I stole California from the Mexican land
I fought in the bloody Civil War
I even killed my brothers and so many others
But I ain't marchin' anymore
And I marched to the battle of the German trench
In a war that was bound to end all war
I must have killed a million men and now they
 want me back again
But I ain't marchin' anymore.

Chorus

I flew bombing missions in Afghanistan skies,
Left cluster bombs outside people's doors.
We didn't get Osama Bin, but someone got their pipeline in,
And I ain't marchin' anymore.
And now I am stationed on Iraqi soils,
The reason I can't say anymore.
The soldiers standing next to me,
 They joined the flee their poverty,
And we ain't marchin' anymore.

Chorus (substitute rich/poor)

Last verse by Carol Dansereau

EASTER JOKE

A man was coming out of church one Easter morning, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed the man by the hand and pulled him aside. The Pastor said, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!" The man said, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service!"

Birthdays List March-April

March

Pepper Gowen-Swanson	3/4
Judy Zibbell	3/6
Marianne Vogel	3/7
Sam Wilson	3/10
Charles Cressey	3/11
John Selmar	3/19
Alma Turner	3/20
Walter Thorn	3/20
Christian Thorn	3/22
Ron Liddle	3/23
Luisa Bloch-Garcia	3/27
Jennie Bloch-Garcia	3/28

April

Jackson Witmer	4/3
Marc Hoffman	4/4
Karen Aubin	4/8
Eli Bloch-Garcia	4/23
Deb Schumacher	4/23
Gisele Weiderheim	4/30

THE NEXT MOVIES (All on Friday Nights)

Sponsored by Social Action & Stewardship Committees

March 23rd: Terrorstorm

April 27th: Pay It Forward

May 25th: Shut Up and Sing

These movies will be shown at 7pm with a discussion to follow. All are welcome the movies are free.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Together In One Place: A multi-church worship and fellowship gathering for all central west area congregations

Sunday, March 18, 2007 at 3 pm
Renton United Christian Church

The 35 churches in the Central West area of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC are coming together to strengthen our connections as sister and brother congregations.

For More information contact Bing Tso at 206-498-6224 or Ken Colman at 206-856-8547. Renton UCC is located at 1707 Edmonds Ave. SE, in Renton.

broadview community
United Church of Christ

325 N. 125th St.
Seattle, WA 98155

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE WA
PERMIT NO. 602

OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH #1

We need representatives to attend the Annual Assembly of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, Tuesday, March 20, 2007, 6:00-8:30pm

Held at Plymouth Congregational UCC, 1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle. Cost \$15 (includes parking in IBM Building at 6th & University)

Registration Begins at 5:30pm, Dinner 6pm.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH #2

We also need a couple of representatives to attend the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ Annual Meeting 2007. Theme for this year is "Let it Shine: the UCC at 50 Years". May 4-6 Yakima Convention Center. Keynote Speaker: The Rev. John Thomas, General Minister and President of the UCC