



STEEPLE NEWS

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

Steeple News
Volume 2: Issue 7
October 2006

BROADVIEW'S 'ETHIOPIAN CONNECTION': PART I By Pastor Dan Stern

Have you all heard about Broadview's new 'Ethiopian connection'? In the past month and a half we have begun hosting Bethel Ethiopian Church (BEC), a small Protestant congregation of about 70 Ethiopian immigrant neighbors of ours. Their presence among us has stimulated some fine energy and lively cultural exchanges. Already co-pastors Abnet Keleta and Berhanu Waldermariam led us in an educational forum about Ethiopian culture and history, and Fefe, a 19-year-old BEC member assisted our own 21 year old Lizzie Baker in leading another forum about volunteering with the UCC Wider Church Mission (and with Habitat for Humanity) on behalf of displaced persons in New Orleans. With the added stimulus of new folks coming and going on Sundays, a number of our able volunteers successfully accomplished long-intended improvements - we finished striping our parking lot, and put in signs for pedestrian and handicap access; we installed locks for office and storage security, and got our new kitchen stoves purchased and installed as well (*thanks is due to many, including Jane, John, Ross, Ron, Jerry, Bob, Dennis, Jo, Terri, Scott, Mo, Ross, Pete, Sam, Dan, Tom, Thea, Kay and Charles- I hope I included all of you!*)

Bethel Ethiopian Church is a mission-oriented congregation, and like us, has dreams and hopes for its future. To facilitate access and growth, they hope one day to purchase a church transport bus. They would like to eventually host after-school language and computer tutoring programs for immigrant children and youth.

BEC has been worshipping (and having Sunday School) at BCUCC on Sundays beginning at noon. Often we are still at coffee downstairs as they arrive for worship upstairs. Interactions have been more than cordial. We are enjoying times, even just in passing, to be together; we are also trying to not get in each other's way! So far, most indicators are good. Though their former church hosts can no longer accommodate them, we have heard high praise from them for BEC's responsible use of facilities, more-than adequate cleanup, and timely payment of rent.

Bethel Ethiopian welcomes us to 'sit in' on all or a portion of their Sunday worship services, or we can opt to (virtually) hear, see, and participate with them at worship via their

Sunday afternoon public access television appearances. Bethel worships largely in the Almariac Ethiopian language, but anyone can appreciate their enthusiastic chanting, drumming, and spirited prayers. Several of their member deacons are quite skilled at sound technology, and are interested in eventually providing us (and them) with a better, stronger sound system too.

We're in the process of working out a few of the spatial arrangements, but it looks like BEC will be in the building for the following: regular upstairs office usage and pastoral counseling, periodic special evening events, a Wednesday afternoon youth group (4-6 PM), a Thursday evening Bible Study group (6-8 PM), and a Saturday choir practice (5:30-7:30 PM).

Of course, the members of both congregations will have to adjust to our joint use of the building. In order to maintain good patterns of communication, and to improve things as needed, our Broadview Church Council has appointed a Bethel Ethiopian Relations Subcommittee consisting of Kay Groves, Jane Witmer, Tom Ward, Rose Bailey, and Pastor Dan. We have met once with pastors Abnet and Berhanu, and plan to have at least quarterly 'check-in' times, assuming we soon sign a contract for long term use of the building. PLEASE LET ME & THESE SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS KNOW of your own impressions, either good or ill. We are already in the process of working out the kinks so as to maintain a relaxed coffee hour, have adequate Sunday Club space, share use of various part of the building at different times, including the kitchen, and to work out the usual details about everything from managing the sound system to turning out lights. As far as I can tell, both congregations are cooperating admirably.

Continued on pg. 2

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PG. #
BETHEL ETHIOPIAN CHURCH	1-2
PAAM NORTHWEST ARTICLES	2
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN	3
GREEN TIPS – CLEANER CARS A-Z	3
WHAT'S NEW AT BCUCC	4
READINGS	4
BIRTHDAY LIST	4
THE NEW OVENS	4-5
LETTER FROM LITTLE FARMS PASTOR	5
DEAR LORD	6

Continued from pg. 1

BEC feels that WE are an answer to prayers. Maybe it's safe to say that THEY are an answer to prayer for us as well. To be sure, our financial situation will potentially be impacted in a positive manner. Also their leadership understands that we are an Open and Affirming faith community; they seem to LIKE us as such and are being most respectful of us. We seem to like and are being respectful of them as well.

There's this significant fact too: having recently rented the remaining spare room on the top floor to another nonprofit agency (The Merchant Risk Council, which works to expose Internet fraud), we are finally more or less fully utilizing our entire well-maintained building. BEC (and MRC as well) are grateful; we should be too. This property, this wonderful resource we've been entrusted with, is not ours to use for ourselves alone. May it continue to be a joy for us to share it with our neighbors who have need of it.



PAAM Northwest News

Featuring Asian Pacific Islander Voices of the
United Church of Christ in the Northwest



SELECTED ITEMS SUBMITTED BY LIN TAKAHASHI

Soul Tending in Midlife

by Aileen Pruikmsa

Responding to the interests of members, PAAM Northwest has scheduled a workshop called, "Soul Tending in Midlife." Here is a workshop description.

"In each stage of our lives, we are asked to do different tasks, from becoming educated, to working and raising a family, to caring for our parents. In midlife, the invitation is to listen deeply to desires for change or for new adventures that are bubbling up deep from within us.

"This workshop will present characteristics of midlife and offer tools for deep listening and discerning what is next for each of us. Everyone will be given ample time to reflect. Please bring a pen or pencil with which to write."

This workshop will be presented by Carol Scott-Kassner, Ph.D. and MATS, who is a commissioned UCC minister, with a focus on the spirituality of aging. She also works as a spiritual director.

Please mark your calendar for 9 a.m. to noon, **Saturday, November 11**, at the Japanese Congregational Church in Seattle, 305 17th Ave. S. If arrangements are made to add a speaker who can help caregivers with the day-to-day needs of elders, this part of the workshop will continue until 1:30 p.m. Please notify Aileen Pruikmsa if you're interested in attending the workshop. Contact Aileen at 206-363-3872, or at aileen.pruikmsa@attglobal.net

Church Leaders Killed in Philippines

By Joshua Madrazo

The workshop at the PAAM Convocation by Karen Farthing of UCC Global Ministries, emphasized the critical situation in the Philippines, where the United Church of Christ has been in partnership for over 100 years, with Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP). Between April 2004 and March 2006, 14 UCCP or Disciples of Christ clergy and lay members were killed under the Arroyo administration in the Philippines. Many have been threatened; others were abducted and are still missing.

These victims are human rights activists, members of progressive political parties, and vocal critics of logging, mining, militarization and other destructive projects. Continuing and escalating human rights violations in the Philippines have been documented by Amnesty International, the United Nations, the Philippine Commission on Human Rights, the U.S. State Department and many non-governmental Philippine human rights organizations.

The Common Global Ministries Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the UCC, condemns the extrajudicial murder of human rights activists, church leaders and others who work for the benefit of the poor and marginalized. The board also condemns the use of armed violence against peaceful protestors, arrests made without due process, and the use of intimidation, surveillance, coercion and kidnapping. The board joins the UCCP, in calling on the President of the Republic of the Philippines to aggressively conduct timely, full and impartial investigations into the human rights violations that have occurred during her presidency. See also www.globalministries.org/.

Lesbian and Gay Asian Americans

By Aileen Pruikmsa

The film, "In God's House: Asian American Lesbian and Gay Families in the Church," was viewed and discussed at one of the eight adult workshops offered at the PAAM Convocation. Here is a description. "The thought-provoking, short film takes us on the spiritual journey of four Asian American Christians: The first is a devout young adult Christian leaders who deeply struggles with the discovery of her own sexual orientation; then a husband and wife couple who are active lay leaders in their church, and an immigrant Asian pastor who discovers that lesbians and gays are not just 'other,' but loved ones in their own families. Through their stories of struggle, search, emergence and finding kindred spirits, they find out that there is room for all, not only in their family home, but also in the house of God."

The PANA Institute of the Pacific School of Religion, which produced the film, is distributing copies of the film at the end of the year to interested churches, at no cost. If you would like to receive a copy of the film for your church, please contact Aileen Pruikmsa at 206-363-3872, or at aileen.pruikmsa@attglobal.net.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN TO BEGIN

"Loving God Back" is the theme of this year's Fall Financial Drive, based on **Luke 12:13-21**. Are we building bigger barns or sharing the wealth? From a mentality of scarcity or a mindset of abundance—where do we live our lives? The questions invite us to consider how we live our lives in thankful appreciation.

October 29 will mark the beginning of our campaign, which will culminate on **Sunday, November 19** with our *Dedication of Pledges and Gifts*. On Saturday, **November 18** from **5:30-9pm**, we will celebrate our generous gifts of community with a *Potluck Dinner in the Fellowship Hall*. Pete Thorn and friends' bluegrass band, The Weevils, will help us kick up our heels and snap our fingers. **Save the dates!**

Mo Pomietto and Scott Pinegar

Stewardship Chairs

CLEANER CARS A-Z

Submitted by Mo Pomietto

September 2006

Read Greentips online at

http://ucsaction.org/ct/U1_Irv71yXuf/

The United States is the world's largest consumer of oil, with two-thirds of that oil going to fuel the transportation sector.

As a result, cars and trucks are a major contributor to air pollution and health problems in this country, and are responsible for more than 20 percent of U.S. global warming pollution.

The recent oil pipeline shutdown in Alaska and the high cost of gasoline underscore the importance of reducing our nation's oil dependence. Technologies are evolving that help do this by improving fuel economy and enabling alternative fuel use, but it can be hard to decipher the "alphabet soup" of high-tech terminology. Below is a summary of some of the terms you should know:

Vehicle Types

* HEVs (hybrid electric vehicles): Hybrids combine an internal combustion engine with a battery and electric motor, offering the extended range and rapid refueling of a conventional vehicle but with the potential for much higher fuel economy. However, not all hybrids are created equal; some use the technology to increase acceleration rather than boost gas mileage. The UCS Hybrid Center website (see the related links) provides information about and comparisons of current hybrid models.

* FFVs (flex-fuel vehicles): FFVs have a single fuel tank, fuel system, and engine, but are designed to run on any blend of gasoline and ethanol, up to 85 percent ethanol (a mixture known as E85 that can modestly reduce a vehicle's global

warming emissions such as carbon dioxide). Unfortunately, E85 fueling stations are not available in all states; check the Department of Energy's Alternative Fuel Station Locator for a list of stations nearest you.

* NGVs (natural gas vehicles): Honda is currently the only automaker offering passenger cars that run on compressed natural gas (CNG). CNG emits less air pollution and carbon dioxide than gasoline, but as with E85, CNG fueling stations are not widespread.

Technologies

* VVT (variable valve timing) or VVLT (variable valve lift and timing) adjusts the operation of an engine's valves depending on engine speed and power demand. By providing a better fuel/air mix and improved combustion, these technologies boost fuel efficiency.

* AFM (Active Fuel Management), MDS (Multiple Displacement System), and VCM (Variable Cylinder Management) are brand names used by General Motors, DaimlerChrysler, and Honda, respectively, to describe their cylinder deactivation systems, which shut down half of an engine's cylinders when the extra power is not needed. This is particularly useful for vehicles with six- and eight-cylinder engines.

* CVT (continuously variable transmission) is an automatic transmission with an essentially infinite number of speeds, which enables the engine to operate near its optimal speed under all conditions.

Related Links

FuelEconomy.gov

http://ucsaction.org/ct/y1_Irv71yXug/

Union of Concerned Scientists--Hybrid Center

http://ucsaction.org/ct/yd_Irv71yXub/

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency--Green Vehicle Guide

http://ucsaction.org/ct/Up_Irv71yXut/

U.S. Department of Energy--Alternative Fuel Station Locator

http://ucsaction.org/ct/U7_Irv71yXu5/

If you received this message from a friend, you can sign up for the Union of Concerned Scientists

http://ucsaction.org/ucsaction/join.html?r=f7_Irv71TRvuE&

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

Back by popular demand, there will be a second showing of Al Gore's documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, **Friday, October 27th at 7:30pm**. If you missed it the first time and would like to see it please drop by.

WHAT'S NEW AT BROADVIEW CHURCH? HERE ARE A FEW OF THE HAPPENINGS...

Submitted by Jane Witmer, moderator

- ❖ We have been welcoming Bethel Ethiopian Christian Church. This vibrant congregation has been filling our church with joyful music and prayer on Sunday afternoons. For now, they are sharing our space and hopefully, in the future, we can share worship and fellowship opportunities.
- ❖ The parking lot looks so *uptown* with the new stripes painted to help make the most of our space. Thanks to Dan, Sam, Jerry, Charles, Scott, Mo, Jane, John, and Jack (John's neighbor).
- ❖ We are planning to extend our world vision during communion within our own church by serving *Afghani Naan* made by Naik Bakht Murad. I recently had the privilege of watching Naik Bakht as she baked this delicious bread. She uses flour, water, yeast, soda, and salt for the dough. She butters each pan, shapes the dough, and spreads milk on it. She bakes it in her oven in a series on steps that involve moving it from top to bottom and flipping it until it turns a beautiful golden brown. YUM! Now we just need to find a member who grows grapes...
- ❖ We continue to gather information about the electronic sign we would like to install in front of the church in order to improve communication with the community. At this point, we are preparing to approach the city with our proposal in order to get approval to proceed with installation.
- ❖ We are further exploring our mission to be good stewards of the earth by exploring information about becoming "Carbon Neutral" (see website "Achievenetgreen") and by hosting a showing of An Inconvenient Truth, Al Gore's movie about global warming.
- ❖ We have enjoyed listening to and sharing worship with several different guests during our Sunday services.
- ❖ Elena Richmond is enthusiastically beginning her Wednesday Choir practices. We look forward to hearing the beautiful music soon!

SUNDAY READINGS:

OCTOBER 15 – NOVEMBER 26

October 15, 2006

Where Are You?
Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Ps 22:1-15
Heb 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

October 22, 2006

Who Has the Wisdom?
Job 38:1-7, (34-41); Ps 104:1-9, 24, 35c
Heb 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

October 29, 2006

Faith Wide Open
Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Ps 34:1-8, (19-22)
Heb 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

November 5, 2006

Leaving Home
Ruth 1:1-18; Ps 146
Heb 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

November 12, 2006

Courage for Survival
Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Ps 127
Heb 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

November 19, 2006

Justice and Joy
1 Sam 1:4-20; 1 Sam 2:1-10 (as a canticle)
Heb 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25; Mark 13:1-8

November 26, 2006

Circle of Hope
2 Sam 23:1-7; Ps 132:1-12, (13-18)
Rev 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

BIRTHDAY LIST

October

Noah Witmer	10/5
Jane (Ostby) Sorenson	10/7
Maisie Chen	10/8
Sara Qualin	10/16
Suzanne Cressey	10/17
Ross Cavanaugh	10/18
Mo Pomietto	10/20
Niki Athis	10/22
Dorothy Long	10/31

November

John Witmer	11/2
Jo Royal	11/8
Ryan Ceurvorst	11/9
Byron Scott	11/9
Kathleen Lundt	11/12
Gail Williams	11/19
Lisa Johnson Hill	11/22
Chris Hylander	11/23
Marj Lindsay	11/25
Andrew Estep	11/26

THE NEW OVENS

Bob Squaglia

Exciting news!

The Church now has two new stoves in the downstairs kitchen. The old Lang unit, a wonderful relic but a tad dated and less than user friendly, has moved on. We were very fortunate to

Continued on pg. 5

Continued from pg. 4

find someone to remove the old Lang unit for a very reasonable amount and for Active Engineering, an electrical contractor, who gave us a very reasonable bid on rewiring to accommodate the new stoves.

The new stoves are both residential electric ranges. Gas installation costs and fire protection codes related to gas were prohibitively expensive and that alternative was dismissed early on in our search. We searched for quite some time for a commercial electric range and finally determined that they were so rare in coming that we should just get residential models. In addition to being plentiful, more folks are familiar with these ranges.

Cook tops

There are purposely two different types of cook tops, a glass top and a coil style cook top. The glass top range top is better used with stainless steel and similar type pots and skillets. If you are cooking with heavier cookware, like cast iron or enameled cast iron, the traditional coil burner stove top is better to use since the burners are not covered and come into immediate contact with the cookware and can heat up quicker and hotter when using heavy cookware. The glass top range does have a power burner and a warming burner in addition to the regular burners. Instructions for the ranges and the controls both manual and electronic are defined in the installation and user manuals for those that care to read them. The glass top range has a tendency to get hot in a larger area than just the burner in use so keep that in mind when using that stove.

Ovens

Both ranges have large capacity ovens and the glass top range has the added convenience of having convection. The glass top range also has a warming oven. The coil burner stove has a storage drawer.

Both ovens are self-cleaning and care was taken to pick stoves where the heating element was hidden so as to not interfere with cleaning as well as to protect it from grease and other cooking oils.

Cleaning

Obviously we all want to keep these units clean and sanitary when we use them.

Coil burner model- The burners on this model pull out and they plug back in very easily and the enamel top lifts up for easy cleaning. Unless absolutely necessary, harsh abrasives should not be used when cleaning the coil burner stove.

The glass top model has some restrictions on what kind of cleaning pad can be used on the top and there is a special pad in the drawer where the installation and instruction manuals are kept. The main thing to remember is not to use any harsh abrasives on the glass top like steel wool, SOS pads, Scotch Bright Heavy Duty (Costco Brand) pads and the like. There are any number of sponge pad combinations with less abrasiveness

that are fine to use and too numerous to mention. There is also a special cream that occasionally should be used on the glass top model after one cleans it and that will keep it more scratch resistant as well as cleaner in the long run. The cream and instructions manuals for how often and how to use are in the drawers together.

So onward and upwards and enjoy the new conveniences.

LETTER FROM LITTLE FARMS PASTOR

Dear Friends:

Your faithful support of Little Farms United Church of Christ in the New Orleans area is overwhelming to all of us. I am thankful for your ongoing commitment for the next two years as we continue to gain strength and grow. Let me tell you our progress in the past year.

Our physical plant is almost whole. We had severe roof damage and glass breakage. The Northwest Pacific Conference work crew led by Randy Crowe did a magnificent job replacing the roof of our Christian Education space [plus installing new siding and a myriad of other jobs]. Their skill was only matched by their love of us. All the broken glass windows and doors have been replaced, so the first thing you see when you arrive at church is no longer plywood covering gaping holes!

Rather than shrink back during this time we have also grown our church spiritually by beginning an adult Christian Education group. Children's education is being revitalized even as I am writing to you. In addition the first Sunday in October I will begin the 2006-2007 Confirmation class with between 3 and 5 youth.

After the storm we lost twelve of our most faithful members. These people were present every Sunday, sang in the choir, sat with the Council and gave generously to the church. It was with much sadness we said goodbye to each one. We also are thrilled to have five new members who are becoming equally faithful members of Little Farms. The moderator of the association informed me recently that Little Farms is the only church to have received new members since Katrina. Pray for all of our churches that spiritual and physical revitalization will occur. In the near future we hope to begin advertising Little Farms. Even this new thing may be aided by your Church Development Committee.

Finally, a thank you for making it possible for two of our children and an adult to attend your camp this summer. This past Sunday Paige and Adam were still talking about what a great experience it was for them both.

We will stand faithful as we rebuild. For standing beside us and helping us to focus on growing rather than surviving we thank you.

Sincerely,

Jim Hightower
Pastor, Little Farms UCC
September 10, 2006

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

DEAR LORD

Submitted by Marianne Vogel

Every single evening
As I'm lying here in bed,

This tiny little Prayer
Keeps running through my head:

God bless all my family
Wherever they may be,

Keep them warm and safe from harm
For they're so close to me.

And God, there is one more thing
I wish that you could do;

Hope you don't mind me asking,
Please bless my computer too.

Now I know that it's unusual
To bless a motherboard,

But listen just a second
While I explain it to you, Lord.

You see, that little metal box
Holds more than odds and ends;

Inside those small compartments
Rest so many of my friends.

I know so much about them
By the kindness that they give,

And this little scrap of metal
Takes me in to where they live.

By faith is how I know them
Much the same as you

We share in what life brings us
And from that our friendships grew.

Please take an extra minute
From your duties up above,

To bless those in my address book
That's filled with so much love.

Wherever else this prayer may reach
To each and every friend,

Bless each e-mail inbox
And each person who hits "send".

When you update your Heavenly list
On your own Great CD-ROM,

Bless everyone who says this prayer
Sent up to GOD.com Amem!!!

