



BROADVIEW COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

STEEPLE NEWS

325 N. 125TH ST., SEATTLE WA 98133
206-363-8060, FAX: 206-363-4791
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Edited by Mary Mackenzie

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bicyclists of nearly every age and ability, took over I-5 and all the major bridges of the city of Portland for one full day, on August 10 (see photo left). Feeling quite inspired and empowered in that famously-bike friendly city, I spend days exploring by bicycle and public transit nearly every single neighborhood. I probably know Portland now better than I do Seattle. In-between these various little August sojourns, I kept coming back for passionately long bouts of prepping and painting the exterior walls of our house (an emerging new copper, tan and brownish read structure has emerged – you’re welcome to stop by and see the results.) Then towards the end of the month, while some of you were at Pilgrim Firsts for the Annual Church Retreat, Sam and I took off one more time in hopes of sunshine to the East side of the Cascades. Near Walla Walla, we got to view the dramatic Palouse Falls, and Glacial Lake Missoula flood-formed geological wonder that I’ve always wanted to visit, and where nearby found human remains are said to be the oldest in the Western hemisphere, 12,000-plus years old. It felt awe-inspiring to finally get to that place: so close (and yet so far away) from here – and from where I’d been born and raised. I was reminded of another time once in Mexico visiting the famous pre-Columbian ruins of Monte Alban near Oaxaca. Near that site, I spoke enthusiastically about those ruins to some local indigenous guys and who lived just over one set of hills; they told me they’d never seen them; here they were, living and working within 10 miles of them, and they’d never had the opportunity. Would that the whole world had the time free to occasionally be tourists in our own back yards. **Continued on pg. 2**

EXCERPTS FROM A RECENT SERMON: COMMUNITY RESTORATION RECIPES

by Dan Stern

Maybe if I hadn’t gone to seminary and become a minister, I would have modeled myself after Rick Steeves and become a travel tour guide. I could have used my Spanish language ability in Latin America, Mexico and Spain. Or maybe, since I’ve worked on a cattle ranch and more or less know how to ride a horse, I could have just guided city slickers on horseback into the North Cascades. Who knows? Maybe I’ll still do things like that.

I suppose we all get a touch of wanderlust from time to time. I believe some of you (in spite of my specific instructions to hold down the fort here at Broadview!) like me, got away a bit last month. During August, Sam and I stuck fairly close to home, but did visit some places in the Pacific Northwest both familiar and previously-unexplored: he and I, with my siblings and their spouses, went on a kind of pilgrimage back to the place where my siblings and I were raised and where our father is buried – our dad, born in 1908, would have been 100 years old this past July 31. We spent a couple days together just remembering and telling stories and lighting candles at our dad’s rural grave site. We drove back across British Columbia for the Vancouver Pride Parade and the international fireworks competition (Canada, of course, won spectacularly). Later on, I took my bicycle on Amtrak to Portland, and with 17,000-plus other

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I love being on the open road, seeing new places. But travels of that sort are my avocation, not my vocation, and the best thing of all is still coming back home. Last month's been no exception. It feels good to be back with you again, a part of this faith family, where we're called collectively to all return, again and again, where we're called collectively to remember our faith stories, and to reuse them today as community restoration recipes. These stories, these rituals, are timeless and important and their deep imprint made upon us are for our own good and for the good of humankind. These recipes and rituals remind us, even unconsciously, of our own basic identity, of not only little side trips taken, but of epic journeys from childhood to maturity, from depravation to abundance, from slavery to freedom, from being lost to getting found in the rich inheritance that is our religious faith. Every single thing, here in this church, can be a reminder, and if we let it be so, a reminder of things good and sacred.

Where two or three are gathered in Christ's name, and there agree about a thing or two, and then, there God is, right there, in the midst of our communion, in the midst of our shared vision, our unity in Christ, our lives of caring and serving and doing what needs to be done here and now. The recipe for community restoration is first and foremost to show up at this table, to come back to this kitchen where these simple rituals and recipes get cooked up again and again. Let's keep showing up and coming back, and getting the stories hardwired in our hearts and our brains and our bodies – so that the epic journey to freedom will continue, and every time we commune with one another at this table, we'll deepen the connections God seeks to make with us. Here, the body and the lifeblood will surge anew.



NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW

(A Mere Sampling):

The a cappella singing group "**Uptown Four**" will be performing at our FUNraiser Oktober Fest, Sept 27 (4-8pm). Thanks, **Marc Hoffman**!

Daniel Clark recently turned 50 in Tennessee – he and **Gary Law** send greetings, and ask for prayers.

Chris Foss is now bicycle commuting to work regularly.

Kay Groves is at her post-should surgery best; we all said goodbye to her boarder, **Hero**, returning (with friend **Yuki**) to Japan.

Gladys Harwick is home again after broken hip rehab – visited by **Sally Middendorf** and **Pastor Dan**.

Joan Herald celebrated her own (and Dave's – in memory) birthdays with **Tom and Thea Ward, and Pastor Dan**.

Isabella Hoffman attended Vacation Bible School (at Luther Memorial) this summer and is starting first grade at Highland Terrace Elementary School in Shoreline.

Carrie Hylander is starting college at Pacific Lutheran University

Brooks Ladwig is seeing benefits of ongoing Prolo Therapy treatments for her migraines.

Dorothy Long welcomes two new young Siamese Feline friends, Molly and Layla.

Peter Kujac is still employed in the produce department at the Lake City Fred Meyers. He is planning to enroll in a computer program at Seattle Central; his mom, **Patti Kujac** is recovering at home from a fall.

Maxine S. Manning (aka Maxine Norton) officially joined BCUCC on 9/14/08, along with BCUCC newer friends, **Eric & Laurie Ford, and Bill and Marilyn Andrews**. (See bios after this article.)

Norma Meyers is doing well in northern California with family – recently here visiting and remembering.

Orandon Mony "just turned two". **Piper Chiddix** just had a birthday too (Sept. 15)!

Scott Pinegar and Mo Pomietto are busy "making a home" out on Lopez.

Christy Qualin's parents are in a new home on Greenwood, grand-daughter **Sara** seeking gainful employment in Bellingham.

Taylor Rogers is starting high school at Nathan Hale. She and **Andrew Studyvin** are being confirmed October 5.

MaryAnn Smith is excitedly anticipating trip to Maine in October to see old friends.

Fabiola Vargas is starting at a school of architecture in Oakland; **Rose Bailey and Pete Thorn** met her there recently. Many thanks to **Sally Jo Vargas** for long use of her beautiful baby grand piano!

Marianne Vogel is traveling, finding new work, and is still active in her Tacoma church.

Dave Warfield and family got their mom into Aegis Memory Care, Northgate. Family to sell home.

Jerry Watson high-tailed it recently out of New Orleans "in the nick of time".

The **Women's Fellowship** has disbanded as an organization but plans on staying strongly connected as a friendship circle.

Judy Zibbell says summer's been "hot and muggy" in San Diego! She's trying to adjust and missing us.

BCUCC asks for prayers for continued strength and recovery: Charles Cressey, Kay Groves, Patti Kujac, Jan Studyvin and Thea Ward.

WELCOME

WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Welcome, Maxine S. Manning!

Maxine S. Manning (aka Maxine Norton) has been a friend of BCUCC since 1995 and in the choir since 2007. She was baptized and grew up in the Congregational Church of Hollis, New Hampshire and graduated in 1962 from Colby Sawyer College in New London, NH. In 1968 Maxine joined the Order Ecumenical based in Chicago dedicated to local church renewal and care for the world. In 1970 she married Bill Norton and had two children, Felicia and Therese. From 1974 to 1986 overseas postings with the Institute of Cultural Affairs took the family to Australia, Wales, Kenya and Ivory Coast working as volunteers in village development projects there. In 1987 the family moved to Seattle where the girls attended high school and college and Maxine worked at Coopers & Lybrand. In 1995 she started her business, Healing Spaces offering Feng Shui & Aromatherapy services and products. In 2000 Maxine and Bill separated and divorced. Maxine continues her Feng Shui practice and teaches classes in the area. She spends time with Felicia and Therese and her two grandchildren, Leone and Alexis Soth and volunteers at Church of Mary Magdalene and the Lighthouse for the Blind. Hobbies include music, flower arranging, and space and altar design. Maxine appreciates the spirit of community fellowship and inspiring services at BCUCC.

Welcome, Laurie and Eric Ford!

Laurie and Eric have lived in Ballard for 31 years and we both come from NW roots going back several generations. We have attended and enjoyed family camp at N-Sid-Sen for the last 20 years - Eric's grandparents originally owned part of the land there, and the Ford log cabin is still part of the camp property. We have three adult children: Jay, Brian, and Elizabeth, all of whom live in Seattle or Tacoma. In "spare" time, Eric reads books about Arctic/Antarctic explorations and other disasters; Laurie cooks, sings, and plays the piano.

Welcome, Bill and Marilyn Andrews!

Bill and Marilyn Andrews met in 1974; married in 1983 (so this year is our 25th anniversary!). He has three children from a previous marriage, all grown and independent. Bill is a 100% blood Tlingit Native Alaskan, from Skagway. Most of his relatives still reside in Alaska. Marilyn is a Seattle native, with mixed northern European, French Canadian and a minute bit of Native American background. She has relatives in the greater Seattle area, Louisiana (from my father's side, Canada and Alaska. (Marilyn was formerly an attendee at Seattle First Baptist - Pastor Dan). Bill's birthday is October 20th; Marilyn is August 1st. We have four rescue chow-chows that are our substitute kids.

OUR LIBERAL CHURCHES NEED TO GET ON THE MOVE

by Anthony B. Robinson, used with permission, First
Published: Sat. Aug. 23, 2008 in *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*

Sometimes small things are revealing. When I call some churches, I get a real person who sounds enthusiastic about where they work and seems truly glad I've called. Calling another kind of church, I get a record message listing limited office hours or a menu of extensions. If I get a person on the line, he or she often sounds flat and disinterested.

More often than not, in my recent experience, the first type of church tends to be evangelical. The second tends to be liberal, what some call "mainline." It grieves me to report this, as I am a mainline, more-or-less liberal Christian myself.

But this, in a nutshell, is the finding of James Wellman's new book, "Evangelical vs. Liberal, The Clash of Christian Cultures in the Pacific Northwest." Wellman is chairman of the Comparative Religions Program at the Jackson School at the University of Washington. Over the past several years he has studied evangelical and liberal churches in an effort to understand these two different religious subcultures in our region.

Coming to his study, Wellman assumed that liberal or progressive churches would be flourishing in the liberal and progressive culture of the Pacific Northwest. He figured that evangelical churches would be having a rougher go of it here in the famously unchurched culture of the Pacific Northwest.

What he found turned his assumptions upside down. He discovered "a veritable bouquet" of thriving, vital, evangelical congregations. On the liberal side of the street, while there were some churches doing interesting things, these tended to be the exception to the rule.

What explains Wellman's finding that the supposedly hid-bound and culturally conservative evangelical churches are thriving here, while self-described progressive and culturally relevant liberal churches are struggling to keep afloat?

What I notice is that evangelical churches, not all but many, feel like they are part of a movement. Liberal churches, again not all but many seem like institutions. While there's nothing wrong with institutions, any institution that is to thrive, especially one that is religious, needs to have the qualities and feel of a movement. Movements, by definition, are "on the move" and headed somewhere. They have a clear and compelling sense of purpose. Movements are about change and making a difference. When such movement qualities are lost, you end up with institutions that feel settled, even stuck, and whose main hope seems to be that they will survive.

Another way to put this might be to say that liberal churches have been resting on their laurels, and doing so for quite some time. But now, as some mainline churches close and others

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struggle to survive, the chickens have come home to roost. Will the liberal churches wake up? Are they capable of some honest self-examination, making tough choices and retooling for the 21st century?

Or will liberal churches, as Wellman notes many do, be content with oppositional identities, defining themselves by saying, "We're not like those other (meaning evangelical) churches." One suspects that such oppositional identities, though not without some truth, may also help such churches to avoid taking a hard look at their own situation.

It also may be that the liberal culture of the Pacific Northwest is not really a help to liberal churches. These days, few cultural liberals feel an obligation to be part of a church, which is a significant change from their parents', or certainly their grandparents', generation. In fact, if cultural liberals in the Northwest feel any obligation with respect to religion today, it may be an obligation to shun it. This leaves liberal churches with a diminished natural constituency. Among conservatives there tends to be a higher sense of commitment to religion. So perhaps Wellman's findings are not so surprising?

There was a time when liberal Christianity and theology did have a movement feel, when it was catching a wave rather than drowning in one. Can it happen again? Other studies, including one by Diana Butler Bass, "Christianity for the Rest of Us," argue that it can. But if so, liberal churches, she argues, need to remember that they are in the business of changing lives, not simply providing services to those in need or offering comfort and care to their members.

The bottom line: Be a spiritual movement, not a social service institution.

OKTOBERFEST!!!

Fall Fund Raiser for our Church

Saturday, September 27th

4 – 8 pm

12051 4th Ave NW

****Music will be provided by: Uptown Four****

You can be a part of this fun event by:

- * Attending and bringing your friends!
- * Donating a "treasure" like homemade canned or baked goods, crafts, or special objects you have gently used and enjoyed and want to pass along to another.
- * Donating talents and services like pet sitting/walking, babysitting, car detail, yard work, knitting lessons, special dinners, window washing...
- * If you donate talent or treasure you can bring a friend for free.
- * Suggested donation: \$15/person, \$10/person for family of 4 or more.
- * Contact Kay Groves 206-363-5544 for more information.

JESUS SEMINAR ON THE ROAD

Seattle, Washington

October 31-November 1, 2008

***Note:** Broadview Community United Church of Christ will be hosting a big Jesus Seminar Event this fall. We are in need of volunteers to make this event happen. Please contact Rev. Dan Stern, JoAnne Conard, or Charles Cressey.*

Jesus in the First & Twenty-First Centuries

Roy W. Hoover & Jarmo Tarkki

Lecture:

"Exacting Jesus" by Roy W. Hoover

The gospels portray Jesus through the eyes of early Christian faith as the Messiah and divine savior; but they also preserve information about Jesus before he became the object of Christian belief. What is the evidence about Jesus as a figure of history and how do we find it?

Friday evening, 7:30-9:30pm

Workshops:

"The Jesus of the First Century" by Roy W. Hoover

What do we now know about the historical Jesus? In this session we will consider how one may use the evidence of Jesus' authentic sayings to construct a profile of him as a figure of history.

Saturday, 9:30-10:30am

"The Ethics of Jesus" by Jarmo Tarkki

Jesus of Nazareth subverted the everyday world of Galileans. Upending basic values, he called the poor blessed, and advocated loving enemies and forsaking father and mother. Are Jesus' ethical ideas irrelevant in the twenty-first century or do they still have the power to subvert and transform lives.

Saturday, 11:00am-Noon

"The Jesus of the Twenty-first Century" by Roy W. Hoover & Jarmo Tarkki

What does the rediscovery of the historical Jesus mean for the heirs of the Christian tradition? Does this Jesus have any relevance for people who claim no allegiance to Christianity? The presenters offer their insights and engage participants in a discussion about the relation of the historical Jesus to those questions.

Saturday, 1:30-4:00pm

Registration Fees – Registration Forms may be picked up in the Church Office or register online at: <http://westarinstitute.org>

All Sessions:

Pre-registration (by Oct. 10, 2008)	\$ 50
Registration (after Oct. 10, 2008)	\$ 60
Additional Family Member	\$ 40

Single Sessions

Friday Evening Lecture	\$ 15
Saturday Morning Workshop	\$ 25
Saturday Afternoon Workshop	\$ 25



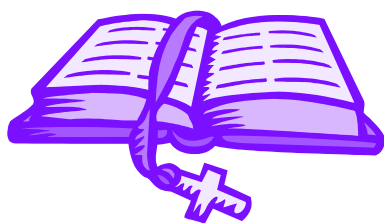
BIRTHDAY LIST SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

September

Patti Kujac	9/2
Mary Lundt	9/6
Joan Henjum	9/16
Dennis Hylander	9/17
Gary Law	9/22
Peter Bloch-Garcia	9/23
Lisa Denny	9/25

October

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



READINGS MID-SEPTEMBER THROUGH OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER

September 21, 2008

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Tensions in the Wilderness
Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-6

September 28, 2008

20th Sunday after Pentecost

God's Sustaining Presence
Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

OCTOBER

October 5, 2008

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Wisdom for the Way
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 12, 2008

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Praiseworthy Living
Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

October 19, 2008

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Living Messages
Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

October 26, 2008

24th Sunday after Pentecost

The Compassionate Life
Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BCUCC Choir Rehearsals start again on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 7:00pm! Join Us!

Interested in a Mid-Week Afternoon Bible Study?

Pastor Dan is proposing Thursday Afternoon as a suitable time to gather in the homes of participants. A conversation now is taking place as to best times to meet. See Charles Cressey or Pastor Dan.

Sharehouse for September and October

September: Disposable diapers
October: Shampoo and Conditioner

See Lin Takahashi for more information about Sharehouse.

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325 N. 125th St.
Seattle, WA 98155

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HURRICANE IKE RELIEF

Affects of Hurricane Ike on the South Central Conference, UCC: Most of our churches in the Houston Association suffered minor to moderate wind and water damage. There have no reports or major or extensive damage to church buildings. A few UCC churches on the outer edge of the Association (Beaumont, TX and Lake Charles, LA have not reported). The major concern is the restoration of power, which may take weeks.

The National UCC has...has been supportive and super in response, promising help as funds through the national 2008 Disaster Response Offering are received and can be distributed.

What You Can Do:

1. Pray for all affected by Hurricane Ike, not only in Houston and northeast Texas but all affected by the path of Ike in midwestern and northern states.

2. Encourage your churches to send financial gifts and collected offerings to the UCC 2008 Disaster Response Offering and to assemble CWS clean up kits.
3. Check out the UCC website for updated info on how churches can help in Hurricane Ike recovery and clean-up.
4. Work on your own Conference Disaster Recovery response team to make it stronger, more prepared when future disasters occur.

In the midst of a difficult situation, we are reminded that the most important thing is relationship, covenantal spirit and personal connections that express love and care: the "stuff" that binds us together as one. Thank you!

Douglas Anders, Conference Minister
South Central Conference