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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
495 E BAKERVIEW RD
BELLINGHAM, WA 98226-9168

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)
495 East Bakerview Rd Bellingham, WA 98226
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Mission Statement

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is called to be a Christ-centered faith community, engaging in the ongoing ministry of Jesus, and inviting all people to experience His love and practice His message.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:30 a.m. – Worship
After Worship Coffee Hour

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

STAFF

Gary Shoemaker – Pastor
Lynne Baxter – Administrative Assistant
Anni Brooks – Accompanist
Aaron Pinkston – Youth Director

OFFICERS

Aaron Pinkston – Chair
Lynn Plancich – Secretary
Pat McGovern – Treasurer

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THE CHRISTIAN COURIER

BELLINGHAM, WA

VOLUME 60

JULY 21, 2010

NUMBER 15

SHARE THE SPIRIT *NOVEMBER 13*

Bazaar Committee Chairs Named

Bazaar co-chairs Margaret Brown and Darlene Page will be working with a team of women -- no men volunteers yet! -- for the annual "Sharing the Spirit" Bazaar to raise funds for mission.

The chairs of committees are:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| • Diana Linayao-Walker | Entry Decoration |
| • Mary Ann Teeters | Raffle |
| • Darlene Page | Jams and Jellies |
| • Ann Hall and Diana Linayao-Walker | Kitchen |
| • Betty Perry | Bake Sale |
| • Lynn Plancich | Craft Cashiers |
| • Connie Page | Food Cashiers |

Committee chairs needed are people to organize the set up for the bazaar and to clean the kitchen and fellowship hall after the November 13 event. To volunteer, call Margaret Brown or Darlene Page.

Outreach Coordinators





Theatre benefit for Interfaith Coalition

Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County will benefit from Bellingham Theatre Guild's performance Thursday, Sept. 23 of the 1990 off-Broadway musical hit "Forever Plaid."

Tickets cost \$25, and price includes a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception at 7 p.m., theatre performance at 8 p.m., and dessert at intermission.

To purchase tickets, call Interfaith Coalition at 734-3983 or contact Interfaith board member Brenda Riseland.

Proceeds will support housing for homeless families and medical, dental and behavioral-health care for individuals and families without insurance or the means to pay for care themselves.

Discretionary Outreach Funds Needed



The Discretionary Outreach Fund is used to help our own members and a few others who find themselves in a financial bind from time to time.

This fund is administered by Pastor Gary to give assistance in emergency situations.

If you could make a gift to the fund, make your checks out to the church and put "Discretionary Fund" in the memo.

Thank you for your continued generosity!



18th Annual School Supply Drive

The Opportunity Council is hosting its 18th Annual Community School Supply Drive in August to help children who are homeless or in very low-income families.

On Wednesday, Aug. 4, businesses, organizations and individuals are invited to bring school supplies and financial donations to the school buses parked at the Opportunity Council, 1111 Cornwall Ave., downtown Bellingham. KAFE 104.3 FM radio station is promoting this event.

For more information call the Opportunity Council, 734-5121, or tune into the radio stations.

Opportunity Council staff said every year they have a long list of students in need of school supplies and this year they expect an increased number of students will need help.

"Everyone's trying to make ends meet these days, especially families with children in school," said Jim Cozad, Opportunity Council housing case manager. "The school supply drive is a great community service that helps many children and families get ready to start the school year prepared and ready to learn. Contributions make a positive difference in the lives of homeless and low-income children throughout school districts across Whatcom County."

Financial donations are used to purchase school supplies for children, help pay for school fees, transportation costs, extracurricular activities, and provide other types of support to the homeless families with school aged children. Contributions can be mailed to the Opportunity Council, 1111 Cornwall Ave. Suite C, Bellingham, WA 98225.



Hope for Haiti Concert in St Louis

July 13, 2010

Saturday evening July 10th in St. Louis, I had the opportunity to attend Hope for Haiti – An Evening of Music to Benefit our Haitian Neighbors.

The event was inspired by the prayer of Ray, a child from Epiphany United Church of Christ in St. Louis who prayed that his church would do something to help the people of Haiti. Mary Albert, pastor at Epiphany, gathered a group together and Hope for Haiti emerged.

Over 20 UCC and Disciples congregations from the greater St. Louis area, along with several individuals and The Deaconess Foundation signed on as co-sponsors.

Karen Elizabeth Hylton, who grew up at Centennial Christian Church and UCC musician and justice advocate Bryan Sirchio presented a diverse, moving concert. A silent auction was held at intermission. I had the opportunity to bring greetings, thank folks for their support and provide a brief update on the earthquake relief ministries being supported by Global Ministries, One Great Hour of Sharing and Week of Compassion. I focused on CONASPEH's work, as they were the designated recipient for the proceeds from the concert. Over \$10,000 was raised.

It was a grand evening – folks were still buzzing on Sunday morning – grateful for the opportunity to join together as UCC and Disciples to remember Haitian sisters and brothers and contribute to the recovery work of CONASPEH.

Peace,
Susan Sanders
United Church of Christ
Minister for Global Sharing of Resources
One Great Hour of Sharing Administrator



Do you or know someone who has a spare room? Melanie McLachlan needs a place to live. Contact Melanie at 738-6598.

RENOVATION=CHANGE

Bring your loose change to church for the seed fund to renovate the church's west bathrooms.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2010 Contribution Statements from January through May 2010 are available on the table in the fellowship hall. Please pick up yours today.

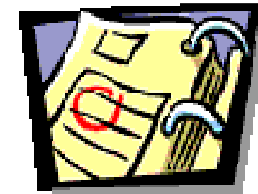
SUMMER SUNDAY ATTENDANCE		
	<u>7/11</u>	<u>7/18</u>
10:30 a.m. Worship	69	81
Nursery	0	0

THANK YOU!

Thank you all,
With gratitude and much appreciation for all the years you have shared your building and volunteers supporting the program and children of VCS.
The planning team



On Saturday, August 21, Agape Fellowship will meet at 6 p.m. All are invited. Contact the church office for additional information.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

First Christian Church general board meeting will be held in the fellowship hall Sunday, July 25, at 1 p.m.

Our Dear Friends and Partners in Ministry:

We write to you with hearts heavy with grief. Like most of the world, we have watched as the disastrous oil spill in the Gulf Coast has continued, seemingly unabated. We have watched as those we have entrusted to prevent such tragedies have puzzled over how this could have happened, and we have watched as attempt after attempt to stop the leak has failed.

We are angry, hurt, and disappointed. We are also well aware that your proximity to this disaster sharpens your emotions. Beaches marked by oil, wildlife sticky with oil, struggling economies—these are happening not just on your televisions, but in your communities, perhaps even in your backyards. We grieve with you, pray for you, and have hope for an end to the damage done by this spill and for the healing of the Gulf Coast.

We know, too, that the damage done by hurricanes in the recent past makes your hurt all the more palpable. We weep with you as we remember the recovery work that still needs to happen across the Gulf Coast from Texas to Florida, and we pray with you as we anticipate the current hurricane season.

Above all, we share with you a commitment to ministry in the midst of such uncertainty. Though our hearts are heavy with grief, they are full of faith as well. From the office of the General Minister and President to the seminary classrooms, God's call to respond continues to resonate.

Those of us who serve as Regional and Area Ministers along the Gulf Coast are here to listen and to respond to pastoral needs as best we can, and we are committed to connecting you with the services you need.

Those of us at Week of Compassion stand ready to collaborate with our regions and congregations to help provide relief to those affected by the spill—whether that means collaborating on recovery efforts with our ecumenical partners or providing resources to our congregations and church members for whom the economic fallout from this disaster is proving to be a disaster in itself.

Please let us know how we can be of assistance. All of us make up the Church—the very Body of Christ, and as we know from that oft-repeated letter of Paul, whenever one member suffers, the rest of us suffer as well.

We send to you our tender love, our fledgling hope, and prayers that the one who calls us to be signs of grace in a harsh but holy world might continue to push us toward wholeness and healing. In Christ's Peace,

Dr. Beth Dobyns Transitional Area Minister, SW Coastal Plains Area

Rev. Allen C. Allen Transitional Area Minister, SW Bluebonnet Area

Rev. Barbara E. Jones Executive Regional Minister, Great River Region

Rev. Michael Elmore Regional Pastor, District 1, Great River Region

Rev. Ron Degges President, Disciples Home Missions

Rev. Carl Zerweck Disciples Volunteering

Dr. Sharon Watkins General Minister and President

Rev. Amy Gopp Executive Director, Week of Compassion

Rev. John Mobley Regional Minister, Alabama and Northwest Florida

Rev. Rebecca Hale Transitional Regional Minister, Florida

Rev. John Richardson Regional Minister, North Carolina

Rev. Sotello Long Regional Minister, South Carolina

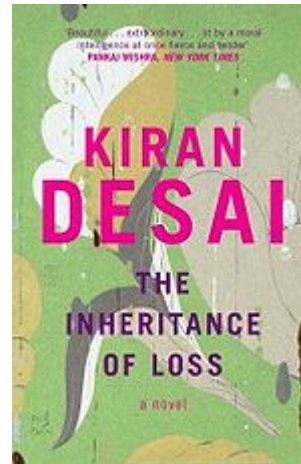
Rev. Dani Loving Cartwright Regional Minister and President, Southwest



Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East

Wednesday, August 18

5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



The Inheritance of Loss, by Kiran Desai, is the August book selection the Book Discussion Group will talk about Sunday, August 22, at 7 p.m. Newcomers are always welcome.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

DORIS MATZ, BEA GILFILEN'S sister is recovering from surgery at Swedish Hospital. . . Pray for MARIAN KIRKEBY. She is having medical concerns and is staying with her daughter. . . GEORGE STEER passed away Tuesday, July 13. . . VELMA MCDONALD is home from the hospital. . . Pray for MARTY WITMAN who has been hospitalized. . . Pray for ROBERT NAIDU who had open heart surgery June 7. . . Pray for BILL PRIBILSKY he has been moved to Mt. Baker Care. . . MARY WESTON has gone back to her home at Summit Place. . . Pray for CONNIE PAGE who suffered a stroke and for her parents CHUCK & DARLEEN. . . Pray for DON DICKINSON, BARBARA DICKINSON'S father, who has bone cancer. Pray for the well-being of HELEN LANGFITT, JOAN POLLACK'S mother. . . Pray for ETHAN POWERS, BOB & MARIAN CRIM'S 4-year-old great-grandson. He has a rare infection that is attacking his bones. . . MARY ANN TEETER'S sister Christy Bennett's "adopted" 3-year-old grandson Noah Smith, has been diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease and is undergoing chemo. . . Pray for guidance for ELLEN ERICKSON'S husband MARC. . Please continue prayers for LINDA NUNAMAKER'S sister PAM. . . Pray for DOUG and LIZ SEARLES, our Global Mission partners. . . Pray for Regional Minister Rev. Sandy Messick; General Minister & President Rev. Sharon Watkins; Yakama Christian Mission. . Please keep the DISCIPLES HOUSE FAMILY in your prayers. Please pray for all TROOPS INVOLVED IN WORLD CONFLICT. **Please submit written requests, if you want ongoing prayers printed and let us know when requests should be removed.**